

THE **Body Politic** 75c
FEBRUARY '78 GAY LIBERATION JOURNAL

SPECIAL POLICE RAID ISSUE

Victory in Quebec · TBP busted · Bryant hits T.O.

ALIVE & KICKING



Crisis:

In the midst of danger, a chance to unite

The Chinese word for "crisis" is composed of two characters.

One of them stands for danger. There can be no doubt that we are in the midst of a crisis. In danger. Either that, or we are experiencing the most remarkable chain of coincidences outside a Dickens novel:

- during the summer, two gay activists are arrested in Toronto for posterizing, and slapped with criminal charges;
- in December two more gay men are harassed handing out leaflets and later arrested for "loitering;"
- this newspaper is raided, its files carried away by the police and its directors charged under two obscenity statutes;
- Anita Bryant comes to Toronto, preaching you-know-what, and promises "seed money" for any Canadian group wanting to organize to oppose gay rights legislation;
- the trial of four men accused of the sensational murder of Emanuel Jacques begins the very day she leaves;
- and finally, the Ontario legislature will soon consider the inclusion of "sexual orientation" in the anti-discrimination provisions of this province's Human Rights Code — in the atmosphere created by the above events.

We've made gains. On December 15, Quebec passed similar legislation outlawing discrimination against lesbians and gay men in housing, employment and the provision of public services (see page 4). But this move has not weakened resistance in the rest of the country, especially in Ontario, where the same kind of protection seems within reach. The forces of reaction are organizing fast.

There is no doubt that we are in danger.

But the danger is not, as one might think, simply that protection for gay people may not be included in the Human Rights Code in Ontario.

The real danger is that we'll do what our opponents want us to do.

Become confused. Attack each other. Be divided.

That is clearly what is intended; the cues are there. Roy McMurtry, Attorney-General of Ontario, declares in a TV news report that publication of an article in *The Body Politic*'s "set back the cause" of gay rights. One article in one paper about the lives of half-a-dozen people, he says, has jeopardized the rights of hundreds of thousands of gay men and women. And this apparently before he has even read the article. Yet some gay people jump to agree. Look more closely and you see that McMurtry has never demonstrated himself to be a friend of "the cause."

The Toronto Sun sets up a distinction between "decent" homosexuals and wild-eyed "militants" — and some homosexuals write in and agree. Read the *Sun* more closely. You'll find that in its eyes not even "decent" homosexuals deserve equal rights.

But we said that the Chinese word for "crisis" was composed of two characters.

The other character stands for opportunity.

And it's there, the opportunity to understand what's really happening, the chance to clarify issues, to renew allegiances. To fight back.

We've recently seen a remarkable example of just that. On January 14 and 15 more than a thousand people marched in the freezing cold to protest Anita Bryant's visit to Toronto. There were probably as many lesbians and feminists there as gay men, and that has never happened before. The media didn't portray it that way, of course. They have always seen the battle to be the orange juice evangelists vs. faggots and faggots only.

But we know otherwise. Bryant — and the organized forces behind her — are not working simply to reverse homosexual rights legislation. In the U.S. they are working hard to kill the Equal Rights Amendment, and to oppose abortion on demand. Her — their — position is quintessentially sexist: there is only one role for women, only one for men. The roles must never be mixed, never be confused: men are on top and women on the bottom. God wants it that way.

It's clear that most of us don't buy these fundamentalist notions. Gay men don't. Lesbians don't. And feminists don't. Even some straight men have begun to question whose interests are served when society is so arranged. Bryant's sexism is so gross, so obvious and so destructive that it has been relatively easy to attract a broad coalition of groups to oppose her.

But remember the name of Anita Bryant's campaign: it's called Protect America's Children. It used to be called Save Our Children. With either name one thing is clear: the issue is children. Like it or not, the way our rights interact with those of children is to be the focus of the whole messy, complicated battle that lies before us. "Children are to be

the last frontier of heterosexual bias," said *The Body Politic* in its last issue. "Damn right," replied the *Globe and Mail's* Norman Webster, demonstrating that even supposedly liberal voices in the straight press have chosen to misunderstand, and confuse what we mean with what they would like people to think we mean.

Webster probably — and Claire Hoy definitely — wants everyone to think that all gay people are after children for the purpose of forcing sex on them. They continually say that we want to get to children to "recruit" them, to "seduce" them, to "abuse," "molest" and "rape" respectable society's sons and daughters. This preoccupation with coercive sex is theirs. Not ours. Our enemies have used words like these to obscure and confuse the public.

Child/adult relations are only a small part of the issue: what few studies there are suggest that they involve less than one percent of the population, both heterosexual and homosexual. A lot more study is needed on this subject before anybody can speak about it with knowledge and certainty.

Bigots, of course, always speak with certainty. Knowledge is what we should be after, and a part of that knowledge is what *The Body Politic* was seeking when it published "Men Loving Boys Loving Men." The article was in no way meant as the last word on the subject. It's clear from community response that a lot more remains to be said.

But we shouldn't let the controversy over one article obscure our common position: no one in the gay community is interested in promoting the physical or psychological abuse of children. Coercion of a subtle and pervasive kind surrounds us all — adults and children — every day of our lives, but records clearly show that real abuse of children occurs mostly within the family, inflicted by parents or close relatives, for the most part shielded from either legal sanction or public view.

What we do mean when we talk about children is never going to be made clear by people like Webster and Hoy. We ourselves will have to say it again and again, in our own voices.

What we want are rights that should be extended to all people. We want the right of lesbians and gay men to be protected from firing from any job simply because of their sexual orientation. That includes jobs involving children — teaching, childcare, social work, whatever. And it also includes the right to be known to be gay, not only by co-workers, but by the children themselves. We can never back down on this.

We can't because such a concession would affirm the lie that our sexuality is dangerous to children. It would also mean we don't care how children grow up, don't care what they're taught to believe about themselves, about us, and the world around them.

The plain fact is that we do care. The plain fact is that there are gay children, and we want them — and all children — to have the right to grow up free of the sexism that has marred the lives of the present generation.

In this caring, gay men, lesbians and feminists are united. When the authorities state that no child should be told that the gay alternative is a healthy and positive one, they also mean (though they may not say) that no child should be told that the feminist alternative is a healthy and happy one. Simply because the alternatives start from the same place: the knowledge that there is not just one role for a woman, one role for a man; that people's lives should not be rigidly determined by their gender; that control of one's own body is one's own business; and that suppression of one's true identity in the interests of social conformity is a slow form of suicide. We want people to be free to grow up healthy in their sexuality and happy in their sexual orientation.

Our opponents find these ideas very dangerous.

That may be because a lot of young people themselves don't. The unity of men and women wasn't the only significant thing about the January demonstration in Toronto: gay youth was there too, strong and loud for the first time. No one there was better qualified to challenge Bryant's attack.

Danger.

The forces arrayed against us are gaining strength. They want to turn the clock back, to put gay people back in the closet, women back in their "place" and youth even more firmly under the "protection" of adults.

And opportunity.

Lesbians and gay men, feminists and the young themselves, united and strong in the face of this threat. We've shown we can come together in a time of crisis.

The crisis is far from over. □

The publication of "Men Loving Boys Loving Men" and the subsequent police raid and charges have prompted more letters to the editor than any other issue in this paper's history.

Curiously, we received only two letters relating to the article before December 22, when media attention became focussed on "One was from Sarah Montgomery, founder of Parents of Gays, the other from the *American Writer*, Robert Kennedy. Both letters praised our decision to publish. Both were sent by the police. Mr. Kennedy has since sent a copy of his original message, it appears as the first letter below.

We have tried here to give a representative sampling of the letters received over the last few weeks. There were more supportive positive messages than there otherwise, but critical voices have their place in these pages. We have chosen ones which represent a variety of critical response.

We have also chosen to print one anonymous letter. It represents similar letters — and phone calls — from individuals who seem not to have the courage of their convictions.

— the Collective

Many thanks to Gerald Hannon and all of you for the article on boy lovers in the December/January issue. In a period of growing open paynes, we need to recall that the fear of "being caught" realistically remains the principal concern of the boy lover. Not long ago the straight world could believe that we gays are ourselves because we were ashamed of what we did. The ordinary gay male often shares this view of boy lovers. We need to know their stories.

I recently had a friend visited with a German boy lover and learned to know a half dozen of his boys. Sometimes they were charming, but mostly I was bored by having to play endless games of checkers and cards or listen to records of the latest teenage idols or talk about pinball machines. But my friend talked their language and joined in the fun of all this with them. He gave them self-confidence and helped with their school work — and yes, they enjoyed sex.

The boys ranged from 14 to 17, but often kept in touch later. I was alone in the house one evening when an 18-year-old called from another city that met him two years earlier when he was living with my friend, having been taken in from the streets and persuaded to finish school. He told me that he was now in a teacher training program and that my friend made it all possible for him.

This association is good for these boys, who know what they are doing and freely choose it. (Two of them inquired discreetly if I were interested in "making it" with them; my friend's fault is that he is often too generous with them. For all this he expects to find the police waiting at his door every evening when he comes home. If [when?] that happens, he will quietly let himself be led off to prison. I don't question or recognize his guilt — he knows the unreasonable ignorance of the world that surrounds him. We must not be a part of that world!

Hubert Kennedy
Providence, Rhode Island

I don't have to tell you that I am appalled by what's happened during the last few weeks.

Personally, I'm extremely upset by the police over-reaction and by the threat to your very existence, let alone freedom of expression. The only way to stop my enthusiasm to fight back with all the weapons at my disposal is the fact that, given the choice, I wouldn't have selected the article in question as a battleground. I don't believe that children's liberation should be a priority for the gay liberation movement. I think we will find it very difficult to defend that article in court, though I defend it. Of course, the question of sexual relations between adults and young people should be discussed. *The Body Politic* deserves to be commended for having the courage to face the question squarely and discuss it in an honest way. But it is not an issue I would want to spend my energy on.

But, of course, that's not the issue anymore, is it? The over-reaction by the

Attorney General and the police has transformed it into a question of whether or not *The Body Politic* can survive, whether or not people have the right to subscribe to a new paper without fear of their names being confiscated, whether or not we really do have freedom of the press in this country. Those are all issues I am concerned with.

I am writing to urge you on. Good luck.
David Garmise
Ottawa

Why should a gay publication, aimed at helping out 10 or 15% of the population, speak out for pedophiles, whose numbers overlap only slightly our own? If 85 or 90% of the population is heterosexual then 85 or 90% of the pedophiles are heterosexual as well. The only two people I've known who were sexually assaulted by adults in childhood were boys molested by women. People tend to disbelieve or laugh at these experiences, but they were frightening at the time. (By the way, both boys grew up to be heterosexual.)

To paraphrase TBP's masthead slogan, "The liberation of pedophiles can only be the work of pedophiles themselves." Why should gay stick out their necks for them? What have they done, or are they doing, or are they going to do, for us?

The legitimization of same-sex love among adults is a far more important and accessible aim than the legitimization of adult-child eroticism. If the two are linked, the latter can only hinder the former. Let's not spread our efforts too thinly.

Michael Johnson
Vancouver

I appreciate a great deal your finally publishing the article "Men Loving Boys Loving Men." The debate within the collective mirrors the debate within the gay movement itself on the approach toward youth sexuality. I glad you

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choice to inform us and challenge our views on our people and ourselves.

These days I find myself being supported in my struggles as a gay man — a welcome change. But in my support for youth's right to control his/her body, which in large part means the right to sexual experience, I find myself up against strong opposition from people concerned with not rocking the boat on an emotionally charged issue. Just as our allies in the struggle for change in a sexist society can be found in the lesbian and women's movements, so too should we look to being strong, vocal and active supporters of the right of youth to control their bodies.

The challenge is to inform, and the key may be to remind others of how they felt when young. What is also required is the calm and expectation that young people become actively involved in the control of their lives and the decisions affecting them. The forms of oppression and its abolition are best determined by those who experience it.

We can't drop the issue of youth sexuality, it is too important a component of our sexist society. And we can't sidestep it for "pragmatic" reasons. To do so is to become part of the negation and hindrance of an important aspect of the personalities of our young people and their sisters. We must find an approach on the subject that will lend itself toward progress. I hope to see more on this in TBP.
Keith Sherwood Stuart
Vancouver

PS: This was not posted in December. Now it is 1978 and I read the article and burnt with anger at the news of the outright censorship and terror (as seen

by the seizure of the subscription lists). I'd like to express my solidarity with you in your part of our wide struggle.

I want to express my unmitigated support for the paper and the Collective, and not just on the general grounds of freedom of the press and opposition to his type of repression. I also want you all to know that I think the decision to print the article was right (if not exactly expedient).

It is so important to raise consciousness about the status of the more "exotic" sexualities, genders, etc. Besides the injustice of the stigmatization of groups like pedophiles, sadomasochists, transsexuals, etc., such groups are most vulnerable to attack. I have been watching with growing horror the pattern of arrests in the last year: adults charged with statutory molestation, prostitutes, men having sex in public restrooms. We are all being attacked by such arrests. And the worst part of it is the ambivalence of the gay and women's movements towards such people. It makes them isolated and vulnerable.

I think the truncheon of Dade County inspired repression has fallen upon people whose activities are not clearly and unambiguously supported by the movement, people who are organizationally weak. I am increasingly inclined towards a version of Recty's argument about the location of the front lines of contest — lovers of young people, public sex, etc. And, as usual, those who speak up to defend less "legitimate" activities are putting themselves on the line as well.

Articles like Hannon's are important ways to get the rest of us to understand our bases, so that we may better defend each other. I have always respected the political integrity of TBP. While the denouement is awful, the original publication of the essay was another example of the courage and political acuity of TBP.

Gayle Rubin
Ann Arbor, MI

Perhaps we are not aware that freedom of the press assumes that the press upholds its responsibilities like any law-abiding citizen. By publishing the article in question (which you admitted you agonized over for several months), you have demonstrated an immaturity and irresponsibility that is shocking to me. You have a responsibility to your readers to print articles within the confines of the law. Now, by your action, you have caused exposure of your readership to the authorities. Was this your intention all the while? Don't ask me for donations to your cause — you deserve everything that you will get. Don't get me wrong — I think the authorities in their actions were just as wrong as you. Only you were the instigators of this action. You egged them on.

Gay people don't seem to understand that there are other ways of getting laws changed other than breaking the law.

G. Small
Ontario

I congratulate you on the decision to publish "Men Loving Boys Loving Men." A part of the struggle for liberation for all people is the recognition that all human beings, regardless of age, are by nature sexual beings. I hope none of you are having regrets about the decision to publish. We all knew we expected increased repression, the battle lines were drawn long ago. You have met, loved and supported for the struggle ahead.

Richard Burhenne
Columbus, Ohio

I am dismayed by this action of the police, not so much from the personal point of view as from the political point of view. I think that this action is not unduly jeopardize me, but because this action appears to be another overt attempt to break down cohesion and communications within the gay community.

TBP has impressed me very much as being a well-written, well-run, and active newspaper, and since I perform several

vital functions of information, entertainment, and communication for Canadians, I would be alarmed to see it fold up under such pressure.

Don't lose faith — we need you.

Adam G. Walker
Courtenay, BC

I've been noting the anti-pornography campaign here with a lot of apprehension. The seizure of magazines like the *Body Politic*, etc. The raid on your paper, etc. However, and the seizure of the *subscription list*, is a new low, frightening in its implications. Of course, it's absurd in the first place that *The Body Politic* could be judged "obscene," except under the extraordinarily vague section 164. If you're convicted, no paper, journal or magazine in this country is safe, that is, they'll be safe if they lose the line. The atmosphere of nervousness and mediocrity that this will engender is, I think, already on its way.

I have been a subscriber through several issues now. It's appropriate to thank you, individually, for your paper, especially in this current context. I'd like to thank you most for the cool rationality you bring to a subject which is difficult for us all, personally and/or socially.

The \$25,000 I've sent to your defence fund is the first donation I've made to any cause, political or otherwise.

Jim Ross
New Westminster, BC
PS: Thanks especially to Michael Riddon for "Flaunting Him!" I love it.

I'm a homosexual and you're a damn fool. If you think that by publishing articles that infuriate the public and create a backlash against us you are doing us a service, you had better think again. That stupid article about teachers and Big Brothers loving boys and glorifying them for it has set us back several years.

Did you think you were offering a revelation? Boy love is as old as ancient Greece and older. Yet after 2000 years the public does not condone it and you are not likely to bring about a change. No parent can accept it nor would I if I had a son. You must realize that by putting all teachers under suspicion and have made life unpleasant for all homosexuals. Yet I assure, being the fools that you and your writer are, both of you see yourselves as knights in shining armor.

Clare Hoy is right. There is also about homosexuality that is repulsive and retarded. I inhabit homosexual haunts and the sight of a young girl preening themselves in front of a mirror or carrying one another often makes me sick. I find boys pleasant and there is a poetry about their love that moves me — but I certainly would not seek to fool the public with my views in this matter.

You had better start understanding the expression "keeping a low profile." It

"I'm a homosexual and you're a damn fool. We don't need noisly idiots like you to harm us. Why don't you just shut up?"

may surprise you to know that most of us prefer to keep a low profile about our sexual preferences, and don't need noisly idiots like you to harm us. Why don't you just shut up?

In the meantime, since you profess to be outspoken and make out that you like frank and open discussion in your paper, let me see you prove that by publishing this letter which mentions you as stupid and not Claire Hoy.

Name: No, thanks.
Address: No, thanks.

I was shocked and dumbfounded at the news and am truly saddened by the im-

fications of the police's actions. Though subscribing to *TBP* was a small step and a tentative one, at that!

"I am pleased to discover that I am not at all intimidated.... Indeed, I'm more ready than ever to fight for freedom. Our freedom. My freedom."

along the road to coming out, I am pleased to discover that I am not at all intimidated by the fact that my name and address are included in the material. Indeed, I'm more ready than ever to fight for freedom.

Our freedom.
My freedom.
Michael Petty
Winnipeg

Editorial of base

I was a bit disappointed with the editorial in the last issue: "Tale of two cities," *TBP* 39.

As one of the organizers of Operation Jack O'Lantern, I resent it being characterized as a "toboggan group" that "shamed the police into doing their job." The major reason the police were forced to arrest some of the straight bigots was not because of effective lobbying with politicians, although that clearly played an important role, but because the police feared that gay people themselves would respond in self-defence to attacks upon them. It was the self-organization of gays into Operation Jack O'Lantern that forced the police to respond. Even then, although they arrested a number of bigots, the police allowed the tradition of anti-gay crowds forming on Yonge Street to continue.

While the editorial correctly recognizes the importance of the gay response to police repression in Montreal, it does not talk about the need for lesbians and gay men in English Canada to give that response as much support as possible. Lesbians and gay men in Montreal and Quebec as a whole face a particularly severe form of repression. We need to raise funds for the defence of those arrested, organize speaking engagements for our Quebec sisters and brothers to explain the situation facing them, and to mobilize support in the community through rallies and demonstrations. By supporting our brothers and sisters in Quebec we are not only increasing the weight of their struggle against police repression but also increasing the weight of our struggle here in Canada for our liberation.

Gary Kinsman
Toronto

Damien's defence

The *Body Politic's* October cover story on Damien's defence, getting gay back in the news, Michael Lynch worried me very much. Lynch raised a long list of criticisms of the Committee to Defend John Damien and its inner chaperon Terry Phillips, most of which appeared to deal with what he saw to be organizational, structural, and personal problems. Such problems always exist in efforts as ambitious as the one to prosecute John Damien. It would be presumptuous for me to pass judgement on such questions from afar. But the troubling thing about *TBP's* article was that its primary gripe was that much more fundamental nature: should the Damien defence effort be just that—a defence committee—or should it become the vehicle for advancing a whole range of other demands and concerns of the gay liberation movement? One cannot seriously answer this question by trotting out a laundry list of grievances, as Lynch did. Certainly the question merited a more thoughtful discussion than the one he gave us.

The central issue, as we see it, is the John Damien defence campaign as exactly that—the defence of John Damien is

it an accident that Lynch's two-page article leaves this question entirely aside? Nowhere in his article is there a discussion on the interests of John Damien himself. Lynch's primary concern lies elsewhere. He feels gay supporters are being slighted, that the "gay content" of the Damien defence is being lost in the shuffle. Yet the very ads that are criticized for allegedly playing down the fact that Damien is gay, and that his is a gay defence case, do not, by his own admission, attempt to hide this fact—as that were even really the issue. Clearly, there is something else going on in this dispute.

In his own admission, Lynch recognizes that the defence committee has successfully propelled the case into court and into the public eye. "This is no small admission. It is not easy to make a defence case, homosexual or otherwise, into something the majority of a country's population is aware of. Something like this has happened in Canada, according to Lynch's own evidence. Clearly, then, *TBP's* attack was not designed to "save" a floundering defence effort (which might have been understandable had it been necessary). Unfortunately, however, no clear alternative defence strategy for winning Damien a case emerges from Lynch's bitly fight polemic.

Judging from Lynch's gossip, bitchy, and ill-informed article just a few weeks before the first coordinated Canada-wide days of protest in support of Damien, the attack on the Damien defence appeared to be designed more to orient the Damien defence to serve as a vehicle for attacking the collective's own views of gay liberation than as a weapon for defending John Damien. Was it an accident that Damien's own views of all this were omitted from Lynch's article? Does Lynch care that his attack has undoubtedly put Damien himself in a very awkward and trying position? Was his attack on Phillips intended to strengthen the Damien defence effort or to undermine it? Did it result in greater gay and public support for the October days of protest? Will it have the effect of strengthening the defence of a courageous gay brother, or of embolizing his defense in other extraneous issues (including personality conflicts), of watering down its central focus by dragging in other, possibly irrelevant, issues and demands of the gay liberation movement? I certainly hope not. But *The Body Politic* has struck out on a very risky course for it as well as Damien—one for which its one-sided handling of this dispute does not at all help.

We all want to see John Damien win. Our movement everywhere will benefit from his victory. We don't want to see his defense jeopardized by the kind of petty rivalry and in-fighting Lynch's article represented. All I can say is that I am glad I am not in John Damien's shoes. I would hate to have to entrust a defense campaign of my own to Michael Lynch. David Thorstad
New York

Survival in the Territories

I am originally from the Yukon Territory. I am in my 20's. What I have experienced over there is something to think about. There has been a lot of media attention on information concerning my well-being, threatened with violence. This is all due to police harassment for being a gay person. They do not tolerate any gay people in the Territories. So you must see the plight that young gay people are experiencing there. It is very hard to grow up in an environment like that.

I knew I was gay since the age of seven, and miraculously kept my sanity during those harsh years. What helped me was reading magazines, books, periodicals and such that the gay community have been publishing. I am sincerely in favour of gay people trying to get across to the uplight straight society that we are humans too. I'd like to thank all gay people for bringing me up healthy and happy for being a homosexual.

Keep up the excellent work.

Roy
Northwest Territories

THIS ISSUE

No. 40, February, 1978

The liberation of homosexuals can only be the work of homosexuals themselves.
—Kurt Hillier, 1921

A lot of people never expected to see the February 1978 issue of *The Body Politic*.

Following the police raid on our office on December 30, belief was apparently widespread that the paper was dead. This was almost true, as the collective gathered in the office that Friday night after police had left were weren't sure ourselves that we could carry on. It seemed that most of what we needed—subscriptions lists, working files, business records, future copy—was gone. As of this writing, we still don't have any of it back.

Two things, however, soon became clear. The first was that none of us was ready to quit. Stunned disbelief quickly gave way to anger, and we directed that anger into a firm resolve not to give those who attacked us the victory they might have thought they'd achieved. *The Body Politic* was not going to die that easily.

The second realization was that, although it would be difficult, we could manage on what we had left. A subscription list was pieced back together from records the police hadn't taken, a classified advertiser list was rebuilt from original order forms. Writers were asked to resubmit seized copy. We didn't have everything, nor was it quite as smooth as before. But we weren't dead.

As you can see, this is not everything we intended it to be before the police raid. It has only 24 pages, rather than the projected 32, and contains no reviews and no feature articles. Two of our regular columns, Judith Greene's "Tapestries" and Ian Young's "Ivory Towers," don't appear. They'll return next month. The classified section is smaller than usual, many of the ads intended for it were seized. The issue is almost three weeks late.

The Body Politic has been able to survive not only because we on the collective wanted to, but also because the community came to its aid. More people than can be named here deserve our thanks—those who provided moral support and encouragement, those who volunteered to help, those who offered their services for the long-term defence efforts.

And those who gave money. Without that support, *TBP's* survival beyond this issue might have been seriously in doubt.

This issue says two things again and again: the movement that we may have thought had come too far to stop is now in danger; and that danger can only be confronted if we are united and strong. Money is part of that strength. There are six separate fund appeals in this issue of *The Body Politic*—a bit daunting, to be sure, but also an indication of the extensive support the gay, lesbian and feminist movements need to survive and grow. □



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Quebec adds "sexual orientation" to Human Rights Charter in precedent-setting move

Gay rights: on

"I think everything's been said," said Fernand Lalonde, the deputy from Marguerite-Bourgeoys. "At last, everything's been said." Two deputies took up quickly to register dissent. Then, at ten minutes before midnight on Thursday, 15 December, under the leadership of the Parti Québécois, the Quebec National Assembly established a precedent in North American Human Rights law: they outlawed "sexual orientation" as a basis for discrimination in employment, in housing, and in access to public services.

That moment in dark, wintry Quebec City crowned three years of lobbying by Quebec gay organizations. A massive gay demonstration in Montreal two months earlier, hitting back at police repression, had spurred the legislators into action.

Ron Dayman, who heads the civil rights committee of the Association pour les droits des gais et du Québec (ADGQ), praised the amendment as "a tremendous victory for gay men and lesbians everywhere." (See his analysis of the amendment's success in the box below.) Alan Bouchard, the Association's new coordinator and spokesperson, welcomed the amendment while noting that this was "only a first important step forward in the struggle ADGQ has undertaken for the last year to win gay civil rights."

The amendment, which was signed into law on December 19 means that any lesbian or gay man in Quebec has legal recourse against discrimination on the basis of her or his sexual orientation in the areas covered by the Charter. No other Canadian province or American state has adopted such broad legislation to protect its gay minority.

Bill 88, which amended the Charter — one Union Nationale deputy labelled it "Bill 69" — passed thirteen months to the day after the Parti Québécois won its dramatic majority in the Assembly and altered the future of Québec and Canadian politics. It followed an intensive campaign begun in 1974 when the Liberal government first proposed the Human Rights Charter — without "sexual orientation" protections.

The Charter was adopted in June 1975 by the then Liberal government. During the debates preceding adoption, a coalition of gay groups appeared before the parliamentary commission studying the bill. The coalition gathered support for "sexual orientation" protection from more than 25 unions and organizations, including the *Confédération des Syndicats Nationaux* (Confederation of National Trade Unions), the *Centrale de l'Enseignement du Québec* (Quebec Teachers' Federation), and the *Ligue des*

Droits de l'Homme (the Human Rights League).

The Parti Québécois, at that time the opposition party, introduced an amendment to add "sexual orientation" to the Charter, but this was rejected by the Liberal caucus and therefore failed to become law.

One year later the case of Stuart Russell was taken to the new Commission. Russell, a gay militant, had been fired from his job with COJQ, the committee planning for the Olympics that year, because of this political

activities. The Commission was unable to act. The Gay Coalition Against Repression (GCAR) renewed public calls for "sexual orientation" protections and took up Russell's defence. Several months later, ADGQ was formed, adopting as its main objective the inclusion of "sexual orientation" in the Charter.

Since the Parti Québécois came to power, the ADGQ civil rights committee has been pressuring the National Assembly. Justice Minister Marc-André Bédard, and the Human Rights Com-

mission itself. In October, ADGQ presented a substantial brief to the Commission and to each deputy in the Assembly. The Commission responded immediately with the announcement that it would recommend this amendment to Bédard. And on December 7, the minister presented the bill for its first reading.

Gay activists generally credited the Montreal demonstration on October 23 with bringing about the rapid passage of the amendment, which had lain dormant in the Parti Québécois program. The



Ron Dayman

Nearly a decade after the Federal Omnibus Bill and the formation of the Canadian gay movement, gays in Canada and Quebec are achieving their first legislative goals. Last year's change in the Immigration Act, in which homosexuality was dropped as a category for exclusion, was the first of these, and the recent amendment of the Quebec Human Rights Charter marks a major victory. The Body Politic asked Ron Dayman, a Quebec activist leader, to reflect on the Quebec achievement — how it came about, and what may follow it.

Why Quebec? The Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission recommended such an amendment as early as 1973, and in Ontario it was recommended in 1977, but in neither province has the recommendation become law. NDP governments have come and gone in BC and Manitoba, with no "sexual orientation" protections yet. The campaign for gay civil rights, which began in 1971 in Ontario and BC, only got underway in 1974 in Quebec. Yet, the long sought-after bill came to Quebec first. Why? There's no reason to suppose that Catholic Quebec is less homophobic than English Canada. Two recent polls (Gallup, and *Weekend Magazine*) claimed on the contrary that francophone Quebecers were even less well disposed to homosexuality than English Canadians. However, a live-and-let-live attitude does seem to prevail here, which might explain the results of an earlier Gallup poll showing that a higher proportion of Quebecers supported civil rights for gays (57.4%) than did the country as a whole (52%).

The concept of civil rights is a relatively recent one in Quebec. This was the last province to introduce human rights legislation. Perhaps because of its novelty, Quebecers are willing to be innovative in an area which has by now become to represent the status quo in other provinces.

What was the role of the gay movement in achieving the amendment?

Now there's the knottier explanation. A number of favourable conditions converged. First, the government had committed itself to gay rights while it was in a minority position. When in 1975 the PQ supported this amendment to the new Charter, it was a party of idealists for

whom power still seemed relatively far off. Gay rights was a progressive issue, attractive to a party seeking all the support it could find. Also, the party could count many gays among its ranks.

The ruling Liberals defeated the PQ amendment. But when the PQ came to power in a strong majority position, it was immediately controlled by the demands of a newly strengthened gay movement. Remember that the PQ election victory on November 15, 1976, came only two weeks after the formation of ADGQ, Quebec's first gay rights organization. And ADGQ has never let the PQ forget its pre-election commitment.

In October 1977 the ADGQ campaign reached its peak with its brief to the Commission and the National Assembly. At the same time, the first Quebec-wide gay conference and the first gay rights march in Quebec were occurring — a gay caucus was in the offing. We were serious.

At this point, the Montreal police understood their intransigent raid on the Truxex, and 2,000 Montreal gays took to the street to protest. That was the turning point. The evident vigour of the police and the massiveness of the protest made gay rights a public issue for the first time in Quebec. Enormous public pressure on the government forced Bédard to react.

Thus, a government which during its first year in power had attempted to ignore the gay issue as an embarrassing smudge, was obliged to take up its own position or appear to be anti-gay. Within six weeks of the mass demonstration, the legislation was introduced.

We in the gay movement have said it for years, and now we're proven right: gay rights will only come through public action. Public mass action which makes gays visible and which proves to the government in power that gays are a significant force in our society, a force no longer willing to be ignored. The lobbying groundswell was important, but it was the militancy of gays in the streets which brought results.

What about the strange media in Quebec? We all know the importance of their role in the development of public attitudes.

For "development," read "manipulation!" Nowhere is this more true than in the case of the gay rights struggle.

While it's not generally favourable anywhere, media reaction does vary from region to region. The media in Vancouver and Toronto have been traditionally hostile, while in other cities such as Winnipeg and Ottawa they have largely fulfilled their responsibility to provide "objective" coverage of gay movement activities.

In Quebec, the media have never waged an intensive human rights legislative campaign. Their attitude has ranged from hostile/sympathetic resulting in little gay coverage (particularly true of the French-language media) to liberal inclusion of some news events and occasional characterizations of the English-language press. This too anti-gay backlash of the kind witnessed in Toronto has been created here. The media haven't yet manufactured their "child molester" spectacle.

Neither before nor during the passage of Bill 88 was there any evident opposition. The only opposing voice was that of the right-wing *Crédi-*

te party, which is traditionally anti-gay. But they held only one seat in the Assembly.

Ron, what Quebec gays have their "civil rights," at least in theory, what does this mean for the gay movement in Quebec? This victory came with surprising rapidity. Is there any strategy developed for the future?

It's true that since the second annual gay conference, the one in Winnipeg in 1974, we have adopted civil rights legislation as our primary goal. Most of our energies have gone into this area. But new strategies are under way.

First, we have to follow the rapid passage of the victory. Its clear that even a favourable government like this one isn't willing to take the gay rights struggle as a priority or, for that matter, to be publicly associated with it. The PQ recognized our rights, but in such a way that minimum publicity would result. Bill 88 was adopted in a late evening session with no media present, with no fanfare. The PQ sought to avoid publicity without causing themselves any embarrassment. The Justice Ministry even contacted ADGQ to request that we not publicize the bill. So now we've got to make sure the news gets out. We have to make sure the reform is not only real, but also real news.

Now that the bill is adopted, we must also be vigilant in seeing that the law is enforced and that gay people make use of it. Concrete acts of discrimination will also publicize the victory, since they are a most "newsworthy" (National Legislation) title.

Beyond this, the adoption of the amendment will permit the movement to press other demands for legal changes: for child custody rights, for an end to police repression, for equality under all provincial and federal laws. A particularly important campaign will seek accurate sex education programs reflecting the new human rights legislation.

One of the most important consequences of the amendment is that gay people are now a recognized minority under Quebec law. The schools will need to recognize that too. Now is this a precedent, and what does it offer for the future?

Approximately fifty municipalities in North America have some form of gay rights protections, and the State of Pennsylvania has provided legislative protections for its gay civil servants. But this is the first time a state or province has granted such rights to the entire gay minority. That's a strong precedent, and will make it easier for the other provinces and for the federal government of Canada to follow suit.

However, it seems unlikely that any other province will follow Quebec's lead immediately. The viciousness of the Toronto media will make the battle to struggle particularly difficult. The other governments will probably watch Quebec carefully to see how the law is applied and if any backlash develops. Miami has shown that this is a real possibility.

But, nevertheless, if the Omnibus Bill was the landmark legislation for gays in the 1960's, this amendment must be considered that of the 1970's. This time it was a victory brought about by gay people themselves.

As we approach the 1980's and the second decade of the modern gay movement, we'll have to consolidate these gains and carry the struggle to new levels. □

Bill 88

An Act to amend the Charter of human rights and freedoms

HER MAJESTY, with the advice and consent of the Assembly nationale du Québec, enacts as follows:

1. Section 10 of the Charter of human rights and freedoms (1975), chapter 96 of the Statutes of the Province of Quebec, is amended by replacing the first paragraph by the following:

"10. Every person has a right to full and equal recognition and exercise of his human rights and freedoms, without discrimination, exclusion or preference based on race, colour, sex, sexual orientation, civil status, religion, political convictions, language, ethnic or national origin or social condition."

2. This act shall come into force on the day of its sanction.



On the streets for gay rights. A few of the more than 2,000 gays and lesbians who took to the streets to protest the Trux road last October.

The gross police misconduct during the year riot, and the massive demonstrations themselves, are left to have influenced Justice Minister Bedard's decision to introduce legislative protection for gays in Quebec. Within days of the demonstration, Bedard had announced he was seeking a meeting with the Quebec Human Rights Commission "to discuss the inclusion of sexual orientation in the Human Rights Charter."

demonstrations followed a brutal police raid on a gay male bar by officers armed with machine guns. (See TBP, 39) Nearly 150 arrests resulted, and over 2,000 people took to the streets in protest.

The demonstrations forced Justice Minister Bedard to speak out. During a Radio-Canada TV interview on 18 November he declared publicly: "I don't accept that sexual orientation should constitute a basis for discrimination." When he introduced the bill for second reading on December 15, he described many forms of discrimination against homosexuals, and argued that the role of the state was not to institutionalize and exacerbate anti-gay prejudice by permitting such discrimination to occur.

"When a minority reaches the proportions of a half million citizens," he said, "no one should be surprised that the government must feel the necessity of protecting the liberty of sexual orientation."

Bedard's speech was supported by house leader Robert Burns who had presented the amendment in 1975. Burns argued that there had already been too long a delay in adopting the amendment, and that it should have been incorporated in the original bill for the Charter.

After the first reading, Camille Samson, the only Social Credit deputy in the Assembly, demanded a recorded vote on Bill 88 — a common procedure for first readings. All the PQ deputies supported it. Among the Liberals, seven abstained and two voted against. Seven members of the Union Nationale also abstained, and three voted against. In all, 15 abstentions and six nays were recorded, alongside 89 yeas.

(On the same day as the first reading of Bill 88, another bill was passed permitting transsexuals to obtain from the Justice Minister a change of designation of sex and name in civil status registers, the first law of its kind in Canada.)

Votes after the second and third readings were not recorded, but only three, then two, dissents were registered in the official *Debats de l'Assemblée nationale*. One of these came from Camille Samson, whose speech against the bill was the only vocal opposition within the Assembly.

One possible loophole in the Charter is of concern to Quebec gay activists. A section of the Charter allows exceptions which are "founded on attitudes or qualities required in good faith" for certain kinds of jobs. It is feared that the loophole might invalidate the application of the new law to teachers. Justice Minister Bedard was ambiguous in dealing with this, saying during the debate that "we can have confidence in the Commission's sense of responsibility, let jurisprudence establish this matter." Gay activists will keep a close eye on interpretations of this loophole.

Media coverage followed a pattern that has been noted since the Toronto City Council passed a gay rights ordinance two years ago: coverage after the first reading or first presentation, which will alert opposition forces, but near-burial after passage, when gays need most to be informed of gay success.

Montreal papers gave the Quebec bill front page coverage after the first reading, and the electronic media were equally emphatic. The bill was the subject of a favourable editorial in the Ottawa-French daily, *Le Droit*. But the few newspapers outside Quebec, which picked up the Canadian Press wire story also picked up the headline "Sex Rights Bill Sparks Opposition." Media-watchers pointed out that this emphasis was typically in downplaying the importance of

the bill's strong support and the success it represented for the gay movement.

The second and third readings of the bill were almost totally blocked out by the media. On December 21, in Montreal, ADGG held a press conference to discuss the far-reaching effects of this major North American gay rights victory. Two members of the Human Rights Commission charged with applying the new provision came. Only three radio stations sent reporters, and only one television station. Not a single newspaper bothered to show.

Three weeks later, the Montreal Star, and two other papers ran a story about the new bill which stressed that it had passed into the lawbooks "almost unnoticed."

By whom?

Stuart Russell and Michael Lynch

School Commission reneges; gay group can meet

The Montreal Catholic School Commission has changed its mind and agreed to allow a gay group to hold a public meeting in a school board auditorium. The sudden change in policy apparently follows the recent amendment to the Quebec Human Rights Charter to include sexual orientation.

The Association pour les droits des gais du Québec (ADGG) had requested meeting space in a school to discuss strategy proposals to combat the latest example of police repression in Montreal, the Trux road. A meeting scheduled for November 16 was cancelled at the last minute by the School Commission.

ADGG had rented the Plateau Hall in a downtown secondary school several weeks in advance of November 16. The day before the slated meeting, a MCSC general meeting decided that the aims of the association were "not in keeping" with those of the Commission. ADGG was informed of the decision only hours before the meeting.

That evening a smaller hundred gays gathered in the pouring rain in front of the locked and empty hall to discover the meeting had been cancelled. An impromptu picket was held.

ADGG immediately asked to be put on the agenda of the MCSC general public meeting on December 1. The Commission shunted the complaint to the December 6 closed meeting of the Executive Committee, where responsibility for rental of space had been delegated.

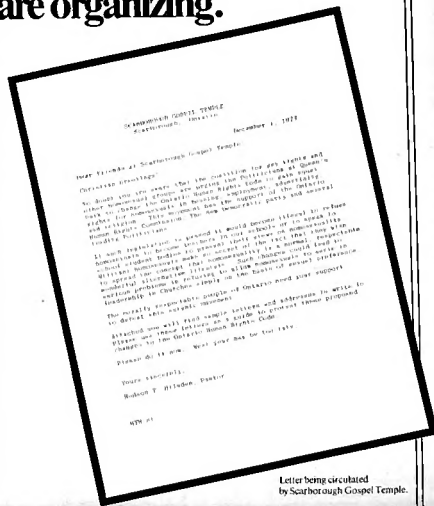
ADGG president Claude Beaudet nonetheless attended the December 1 meeting and embarrassed school commissioners, and distributed a press release denouncing the discriminatory policies of the board.

At the December 6 executive meeting, the Committee expressed concern for the "welfare of the students" but claimed that the room rental had been denied, not because of prejudice, but for administrative reasons.

It was only after a third attempt by ADGG to rent the school hall that the MCSC executive voted to reconsider the issue. Signs and banners outside the school during gay meetings continue to be banned.

by Ron Dayman

Our enemies are organizing.



Letter being circulated by Scarborough Gospel Temple.

They want to prevent "sexual orientation" from being added to the Ontario Human Rights Code.

They are writing to members of the legislature and to various community groups to win support for their cause.

They have friends in the media like Claire Hoy.

And they have just brought Anita Bryant to Canada to spread anti-gay bigotry.

They have money, power and influence.

And they're using it.

FACT

The government has received many letters on the issue of adding protection for gays to the Ontario Human Rights Code.

Four were in favour.

Over five hundred were opposed.

They have money, power, and influence.

And they write letters.

WE HAVE ONLY YOURSELVES.

Help us to fight these people.

Help us to obtain full rights for all lesbians and gay men.

HOW?

1. Write a letter. Tell the government you support the addition of "Sexual orientation" to the Ontario Human Rights Code.
2. Make a financial contribution to the Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario — the province-wide organization lobbying now at Queen's Park for your rights.

Send letters to:
Premier William Davis
Legislature, Queen's Park,
Toronto, Ont.
Hon. Bette Stephenson
Minister of Labour
Legislature, Queen's Park
Toronto, Ont.

Hon. Roy McMurtry
Attorney General
Legislature, Queen's Park
Toronto, Ont.

Make your financial contribution payable to:
Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario
Box 156, Station P
Toronto, ON
M5S 2S7

Do it now. Today.
Tomorrow may be too late.

Toronto

Women, gays and youth unite in protest

Bicots import Bryant

"It's an historic night. Look around you — never before in Toronto have we seen so many lesbians and feminists come together with gay men to confront our common enemy."

The speaker was Natalie LaRoche, of the Lesbian Organization of Toronto, addressing a massive January 14 rally organized to protest the appearance of Anita Bryant in Toronto. The orange juice crusader was to perform for the Toronto People's Church (and the Canadian media) the next day.

To anyone familiar with the progress of the gay movement, the presence of so many women among the organizers of the event and the audience was overwhelming. Three banners framed the stage: "Lesbian Rights," "Women Against Violence Against Women," and "Lesbians for Votes for Women's Work." There was no doubt of the importance of what was happening under the threat of Anita Bryant's Canadian crusade. Bryant's husband Bob Green complained in the Toronto papers that "the homosexual community is using Anita Bryant as a lightning rod to rally their people." While the word "using" falsely implies that it was gay people, not local evangelicals, who brought Bryant here, it is true that her presence served as a focus for gay and feminist anger. The coalition formed to organize against Bryant was the most broadly based, politically diverse collection of gay, lesbian and feminist groups yet seen in this country, and the rally and demonstrations they put together were the largest gay events ever held in English Canada.

The weekend also marked the first major political intervention by organized gay youth. One of the city's newest and largest gay groups, Gay Youth Toronto, was conspicuous not only at the rally and in the marches but also during the organizing. Their energetic affirmation of youth sexuality and of their right to control their own sexual and social lives provided a direct challenge to the "save our children" cry of Bryant's crusade.

The events of the anti-Bryant weekend were the result of less than four weeks of preparation. It was the middle of December before a small newspaper item first gave notice of Bryant's impending visit, and details were not known until the beginning of January. Bryant was being invited at a cost of \$5,000 by Renaissance International to launch a "Christianity-Christian Liberation Crusade" beginning at the People's Church in Toronto on January 15. Renaissance president Ken Campbell also announced plans for further Bryant rallies in major Canadian cities over the next six months.

The first meeting of the gay community to plan for Bryant's visit occurred on December 29. On the same day, Mel Lastman, mayor of suburban North York, announced plans to award Anita Bryant a medal for "her crusade against homosexual activists," and on the next day the office of The Body Politic was raided by the police for a story page 91. Obviously, the ability of the gay com-

Resistance

Sister Maxine Feldman, "she belted herself. Our Woman of Perpetual Perversion" came up from Boston, out of work, to sing. And sang I want you to know I'm proud of being DAMN PROUD OF BEING A LES-B—-ANNNNN!

The Markel Customarily host to a farmers' market. Scottish dancing, a craft show, but tonight it's back-sabuzz with over a thousand dykes and taggals, many (not yet enough) of us with our kids along, swelling the mall with cheers, chiming to hit the streets.

A voice from the crowd, gratefully needed after the Sun's Christmas cards of hate, the Attorney General's personal police aid. Needed to prepare us for the media's scumming use of adjectives as naïve to crudely us again when they report the Jaquelet!

Pat Murphy, hero of the hour. Out of work too, since being fired for opposing violence against women. Leading the multitude through the program as they were chanting a meeting of tiny in the early days of CHAT.

Tom Warner's rally-best rhetoric. Ken Campbell to Renaissance wants the school's to turn to the media. It's far from the media. Religion, Reaction, and Regression. Of, noting that the media liberals had impudently all to ignore Mrs. Green's visit. "Ignoring Anita Bryant is like trying to ignore syphilis. The longer you ignore it, the worse it gets."

Theatre. Thanks to Heather Ramsay's verbalism and/or of that Penthouse reviews. Mrs. Green herself appeared among us. "An arm around our shoulders, oral sex while the tongue is used to stimulate the female clitoris producing orgasm, and the discharge is eaten."

Before discharging her own off-key ballad hymn, Mrs. Green testified how she'd learned to "add sugar to my vagina. It's the worst I've got."

And black lace garterbelles.

She'd been introduced by Michael Rooden's sugar-naz. Ken Campbell: "We're here to talk about morality. Capital-G goodness, as in the Morality Squad. And we're here to talk about goodness, capital-G goodness, as in fresh-squeezed Florida orange juice. And friends, most important, we're here to talk about goddessness, capital-G goddessness, as in, as in goddessness, as in goddessness, and goddessness — well, that's right behind me."

(Hiss, tooooo. I thank you, thank you.)

The market turned into a sampling, with the jazz Queen of the South dictating copulations from the audience. Tom Warner, lesbian she awarded the Good Housekeeping Seal of Approval, and she asked a gay male. "Do you despise yourself, over?" Yes, yes, on was he postulate Anita. "That's all we ask!"

Throughout the evening, a recurrent theme "the social disease of born-again bigotry."

munity to organize resistance and rally support quickly was to be put to the test.

The initial meetings were large, tumultuous and characterized by the expression of widely differing viewpoints. Nevertheless, at a January 5 meeting of over 200 people, a program of action and a list of nine demands were democratically hammered out.

Four coordinating committees were formed on the spot and people were chosen to organize a Saturday evening

Television has been one of Bryant's most effective weapons, and we saw how her forces carefully engineer its use. Taping of her appearance on Global's *Point Blank* occurred under heavy security — in a police station. Bryant was enough. TV audiences will watch her two days here into a full week of "fresh" broadcast material. That's know-how.

The press loved the divide-and-conquer tactic. Especially the Globe which, through "news stories" and Jack Sedgwick's column, urged gays to avoid the demos.

Although reporters liked to twit the Greens' ploy-for-profit, editors subordinated this to news supporting her crusade. They twined over



St. Lawrence Market echoes to the shouts and applause of over 1,000 women and men.

Many plays, forthright support from the Women's Counseling Centre. Evocations of Martin Luther King by Brent Hawkes. Sanctimony from Francine Wyland. Careful analysis from Debra Curvis of the Women Against Violence as she surveyed the comprehensively "anti-women and anti-human" views spawned by Renaissance International and Fisher of Men.

Music from Bob Winton, from Lee Schrapshire. Tim Guest pointing out that the two cops who, the night before, had arrested members of Gay Youth Toronto for leafletting for this rally — those very cops were present in the rear of the hall. The audience turns, shouting "roll out roll out." Tim: "Those of you who think that police harassment in the gay community is just another action, well, take another look."

Restlessness towards the end, "into the streets, into the streets," and finally pouring through the south doors into the subterranean cold (what foot would plan a demo for Ontario in January? or what other lost word would invite the Greens here thinking the cold would keep us quiet?), eight or nine hundred of us now, walking along King Street past McMurtry's office with massive shouts. "Defend The Body Politic."



Tim Guest, from Gay Youth Toronto, prefers not to be 'saved'.

rally and march for downtown Toronto and a protest outside the People's Church in North York for Sunday.

The most difficult task was faced by the committee set up to organize the Saturday evening rally. Coordinated by Chris Bearchell, the group was responsible for the presentation of twelve speakers, three women singers and three skits by the Gay Offensive television collective. The organizing efforts were not without incident. On the night before the rally

Dug All Charges, and Women and Gays and Children Unite. Same Struggle, Same Fight. Exuberance. Women in the lead, hundreds at women, and a surprising absence (or cautious suppression) of violence in the march among the hundreds of gay men who were entering leadership for the first time.

Turning north onto Yonge Street, snow now falling down. Up the snow hill canyon between empty office towers that echoed the chaos, up towards Dundas. Masses bowled at each of the exploitation moviehouses on the Strip. As we passed the building in which Emanuel Jacques was brutally murdered, one marcher sobbed to herself: "We're stronger now, we march with them in this horror of us."

Up Yonge, through the gay male ghetto to Wellesley. The Parks department locked its doors to keep us from sending in scouts, but several bar regulars accepted to cheer us on outside. Back down to Eaton's, where a gaggle of male punks taunted us as we broke up, and cops were heard shouting insults under their blue

The next night, snowier, colder, North York: heterosexuals. Five hundred of us in a longline across Sheppard Avenue from the bridge to the People's Church plan. The Greens' show-biz inside (padding Christ and a J.) mixed welcome outside when buses from the subway delivered more demonstrators (choers) along with more evangelicals. (TTT buses stop at the People's Street door.) One young boy again intoned to the marchers: "Jeezus is lord, Jeezus is lord."

On the subway downtown, afterwards, we popularized several train cars. In one, Chris Bearchell and Fiona Rafferty belted exultant songs, the whole car joining in for the chorus. "I miss a typical Canadian dyke from a typical Canadian town," past Lawrence, past Eglinton. "I'm a lesbian, and I don't need men," past Davisville, past St. Clair, back to the heart of the city. "Wo! ty to put me down!"

by Michael Lynch

The Greening of the Media

At the report, the Greens said the Toronto press had been good to them, unlike the US press which is controlled by homosexuals.

The media made Bryant's visit, and made it impossible for us to ignore it. No other minor songster receives two large, sympathetic stories from *Newsweek* at the Star and a full colour front page photo in the Sun (which dubbed Sunday "Anita's Day").

The anti-Gays in Renaissance know how to feed the media. Several "news stories" were barely altered Renaissance press releases.

her lack of being persecuted while ignoring those she persecutes — us.

Without exception, Joanne Kates' *Globe* article "Voices in the Streets" (January 18) let a variety of the protestors say why they protested to about 100 G people came out in

The article ran only in the early (night) edition. The *Globe* pulled the story before the later, morning editions which are delivered door-to-door.

Gary Dunford, writing in the *Sun* six weeks earlier: "I (and I think the *Sun*) make no claim that what you read here is... Absolute Truth. It is only what people are talking about today and what I choose to believe."

Know your enemies

ROY MCMURTRY is Ontario Attorney General. As such he is authorized to read on *The Body Politic*. He is reported to be opposed to the inclusion of sexual orientation in the Ontario Human Rights Code. He is not very happy about what he calls "pornography" either. "In my personal view," he said, "it is that there has to be some sort of government regulation to control some sort of depraved life."

Apparently he discovered what his regulations are: it seems to involve live policemen and apparently a sexual warrant.

KEN CAMPBELL first achieved notoriety by refusing to pay taxes when his local school allowed someone to talk about homosexuality. Campbell's intrusion into the school precipitated him into the centre of a born again educational reform movement spearheaded by Renaissance International and Renaissance of Canada. These groups are dedicated to promoting marriage and the family, and the exclusion of arrogant



Roy McMurtry

to accommodate them inside the St. Lawrence Market were so small, and hundreds more people stood at the back of the hall. There was no need to rally this crowd for the march that followed. People had already been energized, impatient and eager to show their strength in the streets. Pat Murphy of Women Against Violence Against Women (WAAVW), performed the difficult task of leading a group of more than 1000 people through two hours of music, skits and political speeches.

Speakers included Natalie LaRoche of the Lesbian Organization of Toronto, Tom Warner of the Gay Alliance Toward Equality, Tim Guest of Gay Youth Toronto, Francie Wyland from Wages Due Lesbians, the Metropolitan Community Church's pastor Brent Hawkes, Marty Block of the Women's Counseling, Referral and Education Centre, Deborah Curtis of WAAVW, and Yagool the grassroots rights group BEAVER (Better End All Vicious Erotic Repression), and David Gibson from *The Body Politic*. Terry Phillips of the Gay Teachers' Caucus and Bruce Voelker of the U.S. National Gay Task Force both declined their turn at the podium as the rally ran into overtime. In her address, LaRoche emphasized the relationship between feminism and the gay movement. "We understand," she said, "that the struggle for women's liberation, lesbian liberation and gay liberation are inextricably linked. We are here, our struggle is here, and we will not be moved."

Also among the speakers was a lesbian mother who appeared with a hood to disguise her identity. She spoke of her battle to obtain legal custody of her children and of the difficulties imposed by the necessity of keeping her lesbianism a secret. She ended with an appeal to Bryant to stop her crusade: "To be a lesbian mother is heartbreaking. Today you have your children, tomorrow you may not, solely because of who you love." The crowd roared to its feet in a standing ovation.

As the rally progressed, people became restless with eagerness to get into the streets. David Gibson from *The Body Politic* gave the last speech, a abbreviated announcement of the police raid on the paper and the need for support from the community. He was quickly followed by lesbian singer Maxine Fieldman who had flown in from Boston specially for the rally. Fieldman's wit and energy galvanized the rally and brought people to their feet for the pushout into the streets.

The subsequent march up Yonge Street was the largest and loudest gay demonstration the city had ever seen, covering more than two miles before it ended well after midnight.

The next evening, the second demonstration of the weekend took place across the street from People's Church. While Anita Bryant launched the Christian Liberation Crusade inside, more than 500 people circled slowly outside, chanting, singing and performing until only a few hundred feet away, broadcast to thousands.

Protest, however, was not confined to outside the church. Just after the service ended, a woman came up from behind Rev. Paul Smith and pushed a cream pie into his face. Smith declined to press charges, but despite this police appre-

hended the woman and questioned her for an hour and a half. She later reported in an interview with TBP that police seemed to be digging for information about "underground gay organizations" which they apparently believe to exist.

The threat of an evangelical anti-gay crusade sparked by Bryant's visit also spurred Toronto area gay religious groups into action. At the same time as the performance at People's Church was happening, 300 people took part in an ecumenical "Celebration of the Joy of Liberation" at a Unitarian church on St. Clair Avenue. The Metropolitan Community Church, Ha Mishpacha, Dignity and Integrity united to form the Metro Council of Gay Church. The Synagogues to organize the service. The



Bob Green

Council largely through the efforts of MCC pastor Brent Hawkes, rallied the efforts of the major Canadian religious denominations. Bruce McLeod, former moderator of the United Church of Canada, Carmen Poole of the Anglican Church, Mark Shapiro, rabbi of the largest reform synagogue in Toronto, and Roman Catholic priest Tim Ryan all took part in the service.

Following the religious service, the Council sponsored a meeting at which Bruce Voelker of the National Gay Task Force spoke on the lobbying efforts that his group had organized in the U.S. Tom Warner, representing the National Gay Religious Council, and the Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario, also outlined the efforts of those organizations to push for

with men. Feminist positions had to be constantly discussed during each meeting. The wording of the poster publicizing the action presented problems in showing an accurate representation of women and men. The statement announcing the Coalition press conference stressed lesbian issues over a general gay movement. Linda knew that some men were upset about the feminist inclusion but did not speak up against this for fear of being sexist. A long time ago, women were afraid to voice women's concerns in mixed groups for fear of being divisive. It was apparent that the same thing was happening with the men involved in the action. That was one thing Linda was able to point to as the weak character of united action.

It will take a strong lesbian presence to teach gay men about the need for a unity that is more than a pieties.

The Saturday night rally was an experiment in combining politics with an evening party culture. Linda said, "I was really pleased with the rally and especially the feminist influence on the stage itself." The speakers from both lesbian and feminist groups and the lesbian entertainment were really important.

The response of the Toronto media to the protest, however, showed quite clearly the lack of interest in linking the feminist movement with gay liberation. The bias in reporting the events over the weekend was symbolized by the Sunday CBC News. The interview with Linda and Gary Kinsman outside the People's Church was edited to exclude Linda's remarks. Again, lesbians were the silent (or silenced) minority.

Linda would like to repeat, "Anita Bryant is against everything that feminism stands for: day care, abortion, equal pay and, more recently, control over our own sexuality. She's not alone. There are many right wing forces which support her in the U.S. and we are seeing more clearly that these same forces exist everywhere. The



Ken Campbell

"Christian talent agency." Fisher of Men is involved with the promotion of the Canadian crusade launched by Campbell and his associates. The evangelist will still take the lake after local costs are met.

Bobis' not in for the money, but the Greens count their blessings to the tune of \$550,000 per year.

the passage of gay civil rights legislation. The meeting set up a committee of four men and four women to organize lobbying aimed at individual members of the provincial legislature to urge support for inclusion of "sexual orientation" in the Human Rights Code. It is expected that the measure will be debated in the upcoming session of the legislature, due to open February 20.

The timing of Bryant's visit is seen by many to be related to the debate on protection for lesbians and gay men in the Human Rights Code. "Our enemies are well organized and well financed," said Tom Warner, "and Bryant's appearance was only a part of their strategy. We've got to be strong, alert and united if we want to win this battle."

Renaissance group which invited her to Canada is not alone in its tight against women and gay people. They know that both movements are a real threat to the status quo. All of these thriving groups have connections to the conservative element in political parties and the power of these political groups is enormous.

During the organizing meetings and the two actions, contradictions began to surface. Feminists themselves were not unified in action. Feelings ran high and Linda Jan expressed the anger of many other lesbians active in the Coalition. "The Coalition agreed that women would lead the march. Their sexuality was never specified. But the lesbian Wages Due group, an autonomous lesbian group within the Wages for Housework Campaign, proved to all of us what the word 'unprincipled' really means. It was just two years ago that they told women to boycott the National Gay Rights Convention in Toronto and now they work with men — against the feminists. Feminism before lesbianism has been, in the past, an issue in the women's liberation movement. Wages Due, however, continually puts the forward pass to further antagonize lesbian feminists and feminists within the women's movement. Their fear that feminist influence would suppress the question does not excuse their conduct in accusing several lesbians of being straight, by saying that a 'real' lesbian would not belong to the feminist organization, Women Against Violence Against Women."

Feminists are organizing now for International Women's Day on March 8th and, coming so soon after Anita Bryant, this day of solidarity to women around the world gives women an opportunity to visibly express that they really do understand the connections between the two movements. Let hands will shake the world — someday.

by Pat Leslie

Feminists and faggots unite

Anita Bryant came to Toronto for the first visit in a few months from Canada announcing the campaign to "save our children." As feminists, as lesbians and as mothers, we also are concerned about the fate of our children.

For this reason, the principal *The Body Politic* article, "Men Loving Boys Loving Men," put many lesbians in a difficult position. Lesbians were not anxious to associate themselves with a gay movement that did not recognize the anxiety of all of us as mothers to lesbian mothers. But what the participation of feminists in the Anita Bryant actions revealed to was the public declaration that neither the male gay community nor those supporting Anita Bryant has any right to control the lives of our children.

Feminists know that many of the gains we have won over the past years will be lost if we choose to ignore Anita Bryant. The right-wing forces supporting her know that the movement for women's liberation and gay liberation are inextricably linked and, with each successful struggle, we further undermine the family structure. The question of sexuality is a feminist one with a feminist perspective and an attack on gay men is the same time, an attack on women, forcing us back into traditional sex roles.

After the historic weekend of January 15th, feminists and feminists' lesbians were making their personal and political evaluations. Due to the immediate crisis of Bryant's visit, there had been no time either to talk of the hoped-for future unity. The challenges of women and men coming to some basic agreement was met successfully — for a moment.

Linda Jan, a lesbian member of Women Against Violence Against Women, was actively involved in the Saturday and Sunday protests against Anita Bryant. She was fully aware of the significance of feminist participation in the demonstration for gay liberation, and believes that this unity of the moment would never have happened without the self-activity of women organizing around our own concerns. The last two years has seen a growing strength among lesbian groups, and gay men in particular have been forced to pay attention to lesbian issues. Linda Jan, "Years ago, I had decided to devote my energy to women. I had decided to organize against Anita Bryant. I found myself in the unique position of working with men for the first time in a long time. I didn't think it was the most ideal situation but I could see that the men were generally open to feminism. On the other hand, I think it is too early in the organization of both movements to expect it to be anything but a fragile unity. First we have to develop our own politics as lesbians and as feminists."

It was hard work for Linda to do these actions



Left to right at the press conference announcing the community response to Bryant's campaign: Pat Murphy (WAAVW), Anita Bryant (WAAVW), Gary Kinsman (UOAT), Linda Jan (WAAVW), Francis Hyslop (CHAT), Brent Hawkes (MCC), Francie Wyland (WDL).

Toronto

Office searched for more than three hours,
Pink Triangle directors slapped with obscenity charges

TBP raided & charged

On Friday, December 30 at 5 p.m., four officers of the Metropolitan Toronto Police and one Ontario Provincial Police officer entered the office of *The Body Politic* armed with a search warrant. The warrant authorized the officers to search for "corporate records, invoices and documents pertaining to business operations" which would afford evidence relevant to charges which might be laid under Section 164 of the Criminal Code of Canada (use of the mails for the purpose of transmitting or delivering anything that is obscene, indecent, immoral or scurrilous).

The raid followed hard on the heels of a media barrage conducted by the Toronto Sun and Claire Hoy, a columnist with the paper.

Ed Jackson, long-time collective member and secretary of Pink Triangle Press, was in the office when the police arrived.

"They went through the office with a fine-tooth comb for 3 1/2 hours," he said. "By the time they left, they had filled twelve large shopping boxes with documents and records. They took subscription lists dating years into the past, distribution and advertising records, corporate and financial records (even our cheque book), classified ad records and addresses, manuscripts for publication, letters to the editor, all copies of *The Joy of Gay Sex*, *The Joy of Lesbian Sex* and *Loving Man* that were on the premises. All these books are on sale elsewhere in the city. They opened mail both personal and business, went through our photo file. It seemed like everything they needed to continue publication walked out the door..."

During the search, lawyer Clayton Ruby, who had been called to the scene by Jackson, offered the police the admission of any evidence which they might request relating to the charges pending in order to prevent seizure of other vital material.

The offer was refused.

"They were intent upon taking away as much as they could," Jackson says. "It was an obvious attempt to terrorize the readers of a newspaper by seizing its subscription list."

According to Ruby, all the police needed to press charges was a copy of the newspaper and proof that we distributed it. Proof of distribution could have been obtained from the post office.

The police also went through the holdings of the Canadian Gay Archives. Files from the Archives special section of early *Body Politic* records were taken from the office, along with the current material seized. The Archives is a member in good standing of TAAG — Toronto Area Archivists Group, and James Fraser, the gay archives coordinator, reports that several TAAG members are very concerned that police can enter an archives and look through material unrelated to charges they are investigating.

"We're asking TAAG to write a letter of complaint to the Attorney General," said Fraser. "We've also contacted the Association of Canadian Archivists and asked them to do the same thing."

Collective members feel that it was significant that the raid occurred when it did. "They arrived at 5:00 clock on a Friday before the New Year long weekend," said Jackson. "And that meant they could walk out of here with everything and spend the next four days going over it. We couldn't even begin legal manoeuvres to quash the warrant until the world got back to normal after New Year's, and that was the following Tuesday."

Ruby feels that the search warrant



used during the raid was illegal under Canadian law. "The terms were so broad that they allowed the seizure of almost anything on the premises," he said. Ruby has initiated an action in the Supreme Court of Ontario to quash the warrant and demand the return of everything taken in the raid.

However, because of the backlog of cases due to appear before the court, TBP quash order may not be heard until March 7. The paper will be forced to operate without most of its records until that time. If the quash order is unsuccessful, the police can keep all



materials until the trial is over. On January 5, charges under Sections 159 and 164 of the Criminal Code were laid by the Crown Attorney against Pink Triangle Press, the non-profit publisher of *The Body Politic*, and against the officers of the corporation: president Ken Popert, secretary Edward Jackson and treasurer Gerald Hannon.

Both charges carry a maximum sentence of two years in jail. The titles of president, secretary and treasurer exist to fulfill legal requirements of Pink Triangle's status as a non-profit corporation. They have little effect

on day-to-day operations, however. *The Body Politic*, the Gay Archives and the press itself are collectively run, with decisions made democratically by the people actually involved in the work.

Section 159 of the Criminal Code relates to the possession of obscene material for the purpose of distribution. The item charged under the section was Dr. Mark Freedman's and Harvey Mays' book on gay male sexuality, *Loving Man*. The book was offered for sale through the book service of Pink Triangle Press.

Loving Man had previously been cleared by Canada Customs as not being "immoral or indecent."

Charges under Section 164 relate to publication of the article "Men Loving Boys Loving Men" in the December/January issue of the paper.

Gerald Hannon, author of the article about child/adult relationships which appears to have displeased the authorities, read a prepared statement during the January 5 press conference.

"Pedophilia is a taboo topic," he said, "and I suppose that one can be expected to be pickier for opening discussion on the topic. But I insist without reservation on my right to discuss it."

"If these charges, and any subsequent trial, do nothing more than demystify the topic of pedophilia and make it one that responsible men and women can discuss without fear, the article in question will have served its purpose."

Hannon, Jackson and Popert made a brief court appearance on January 27. Trial date was set for June 26.

MESSAGE TO SUBSCRIBERS

"It took about a week of hard work," said Keith Sly, TBP subscription manager, "to put together a partial subscription list based on files the police hadn't seized. But we did it."

Sly emphasized that any subscriber who had to purchase this issue at the newsstand should let us know at the responsible men and women can discuss without fear, the article in question will have served its purpose."

"We'll be happy to put them back on the list," he said. Classified advertisers who paid for an ad but don't see it in this issue should also get in touch. □

Deja vu: August '72

The July/August 1972 issue of *The Body Politic* contained an article by Gerald Hannon called "Of Men and Little Boys."

The third week in August was Gay Pride Week, the first time Canadian lesbians and gay men had chosen a period of visibility and celebration. The rest, as they say, is history.

On August 23, Kenneth Bagnall, a columnist with *The Globe and Mail*, questioned the slogan of \$14,000 in public money to the Community Homophile Association of Toronto (CHAT). At that time, several TBP collective members were also member of CHAT.

On the same day, *The Globe and Mail* editorialized on the issue, and asked whether police action would be taken against the newspaper or author.

"On the same day, the lead editorial in the *Toronto Star* ('No open season on children') wondered if it had been right in supporting the 1969 Criminal Code amendments, and suggested that the Attorney General consider laying counselling charges against TBP."

On August 26, the *Toronto Sun*, noting that the city had just endured Gay Pride Week, suggested that "criminal action" be considered against *Body Politic*, "and that 'the federal government should withdraw support from CHAT'."



whole issue so far that nobody would dare suggest that now."

"Divide and conquer" is not working as well this time. "Five years ago the community was represented by CHAT," said Brian Macosko of the Gay Alliance Toward Equality, "and they felt the need to disassociate themselves from *The Body Politic*. This isn't happening now. Organizations are stronger, and there are a lot more of them. People see the difference between one article — which they may disagree with — and a newspaper whose continued existence they feel is vitally important. □



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Peterborough

Trent vote backs funding for gays

In a referendum held Nov. 24 and 25, students at Trent University in Peterborough voted by a large majority to reject a proposal which would have cut off funding for the Trent Homophile Association.

According to the final tally made by the Trent Student Union, 336 students voted in favour of the cutoff and 514 voted against it. The total number of votes cast represented 50.4% of the student body, a large turnout for a student vote.

The referendum became necessary after 265 students signed a petition demanding the cutoff. Under the Trent Student Union constitution, that was enough (more than 10% of the student body) to force a vote on the question.

The petition was initiated by history student Don McIsaac. McIsaac said he was concerned about student funds going to organizations with non-student members. His petition read:

"Whereas funds from the Trent Student Union have been used for both politically and sexually oriented groups with an operating membership that includes non-Trent students, and whereas I am a member of Trent University, I submit this practice be discontinued immediately."

McIsaac said his cutoff proposal was aimed at five campus organizations, of which the Trent Homophile Association was just one. However, none of the other four had been allotted funds by the student union.

McIsaac was later to claim that he was being misrepresented as an anti-homosexual bigot and that his real concern was the granting of funds to groups with off-campus members. However, some students said they were asked by McIsaac to sign the petition "to keep the laggards from dancing in our dining hall."

As is often the case with anti-gay student union activities, the circulation of the McIsaac petition was carried out quietly, with no publicity. Although it began to circulate early in October, Trent Homophile Association members did not find out about it until an Oct. 27

Lee Shropshire, an association member, called a meeting for November 1 to discuss the petition and impending referendum. Out of that meeting was born the Coalition for Freedom of Association, a group which included students, faculty and off-campus people, gay and straight. The coalition formed around the following statement:

"Trent University should not be insular and elitist, but should be responsive to the needs of the community whose right



THA members, left to right, Shaleigh MacGillivray, Lee Shropshire, Phil MacGillivray.

is to hold membership in groups that the students can provide.

"That there be equal funding rights for politically and sexually oriented groups. All Trent students pay ancillary fees and therefore all Trent student groups have the right to approach the student government to seek a return on the students' investment."

The coalition's strategy for the referendum campaign was two-fold, to seek support for and publicize its statement on the referendum and to name the groups that the vaguely worded McIsaac proposal could be used against many campus groups, not just the ones he singled out.

Throughout the campaign, the coalition kept the initiative with its public campaign strategy. Its members took part in two public meetings called to discuss McIsaac's proposal, and won both debates.

It sought and secured support from student organizations, faculty members (85 out of 68 approached endorsed the statement) and administration personnel, including the president of the university. The coalition also secured favourable responses from the student government of three of Trent's five constituent colleges. The other two remained neutral in the campaign.

Money for the coalition's campaign was raised by a two-night benefit to which entertainers donated their talents. About \$200 was raised.

McIsaac, in contrast, was never able to mount a real campaign, although he did receive a donation of \$100 from an off-campus Roman Catholic Church source.

News of their overwhelming victory came to the members of the coalition as they sat in a pub. Says a member of the Trent Homophile Association: "We didn't really feel any sense of victory. We were tired. We just went home and went to bed."

by Ken Popert

Ontario

Rights Commission loses pro-gay members

The appointment of Dorothea Crittenden as incoming chairperson of the Human Rights Commission has sparked a barrage of criticism from concerned human rights groups and has led to the resignation of one commissioner.

Crittenden and three new commissioners were appointed in January following a decision by four commissioners up for reappointment not to remain. Crittenden, a civil servant since 1937, has been Deputy Minister of Community and Social Services for four years. Criticism has been levelled at the political nature of the appointment of a long-time civil servant to this sensitive post just before a major review of the Human Rights Code by the government. Former NDP leader Stephen Lewis commented in the *Toronto Star* that he couldn't recall "a tremor of irascible independence about Ministry of Community and Social Services policies" and pointed out that the Ministry is an administrative quagmire, the Deputy Minister must be held responsible when things don't work. Why should Human Rights be inherited what Social Services has disgorged?

Outgoing Chairperson Dr. Thomas Symons had earned praise and respect during his three year tenure. Though Symons would not comment publicly on his departure from the Commission, Rev. Bruce McLeod resigned over the appointment. In a letter to the Premier, he stated that "there will be many... who will be alarmed and disheartened by the appointment, and I am afraid that I find myself among them." Both McLeod and Symons were seen as strong personal supporters of the "sexual orientation" amendment.

Of the nine members of the Commission recommending its report that sexual orientation be added to the Human Rights Code, only four remain: Bromley Armstrong and Judge Rosalie Abella, who asked to be reappointed, and Elsie Chilton and Brian Angus, whose terms have not expired.

The three new commissioners, all men, were appointed by Premier Davis. Appointee Canon Borden C. Purcell of Ottawa told the *Globe and Mail*, "Honestly, I don't know what my functions are. I'm not sure how much I'm getting," and is quoted in the *Toronto Star* as saying "It is good for the clergy to be involved out in the real world." Appointee Rabbi Gruen Plaut of Toronto told the *Globe* "I know nothing about the job yet, but I think the idea is a great one." Dr. Bhagshah Ubale, an East Indian economist, is the only appointee who has been active in human rights.

The Commission's recommendations are currently under review by the Cabinet. Legislative action is expected this spring.

by Lily Wood

Toronto

Two get stiff sentence for posterings

On November 21, 1977 two members of GATE were fined \$300 and sentenced to seven days in jail by a Toronto court for posting posters on mailboxes. The two men had been convicted on charges of willful damage. Outside the court building members of GATE picketed to protest police harassment designed to deny gays the communication vital to a healthy gay community. Both conviction and sentence are being appealed.

David Foreman and Bob Schlar were arrested on July 18, 1977 while putting up posters for a gay dance and a protest march against Brought. They were originally to be charged with unlawfully distributing handbills. When they were taken to police headquarters they were subjected to verbal abuse and the charge was changed to willful damage under the Criminal Code. Foreman was forced to strip while in police custody.

The two appeared before Provincial Court Judge Robert Oneipier. Despite conflicting evidence on the extent of the posting and the exact location of the mailbox in question, Judge Oneipier accepted testimony of the police officers over that of the two men. The two men lost the last of the post office testified that it cost \$73.50 to remove the posters by steam heating to avoid damaging the paint.

Foreman and Schlar demonstrated in court that they could easily be removed in minutes with hot water and soap. GATE spokesperson Brian Mossop stated that "the real issue is whether gays, who are denied access to their media, will be allowed to communicate with each other in the gay community."

by Robin Hardy

Murder trial jury chosen

On January 16, jury selection began for the Supreme Court trial of four men charged with the murder of 12 year old Emanuel Jacques. The boy's body was found wrapped in drapes on the roof of a Young Street body shop parlor last July. The accused, Saul Betesh, 27, Robert Krebs, 29, Josef Woods, 26, and Werner Gruener, 29, face sentences of life imprisonment if convicted and will have to serve twenty five years before being eligible for parole.

The death of Emanuel Jacques attracted widespread anti-gay publicity last summer. Describing the boy's murder with variations on the theme of "homosexual gay slaying", homophobic journalists and newspapers have attempted to use the murder to engineer "public sentiment against the gay man. The murder and attendant publicity followed closely the Ontario Human Rights Commission's recommendation that people should be protected from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

The trial will last from six to eight weeks. Four days were taken to select twelve jurors from a panel of 300 potential jurors. Jury selection has been followed by two weeks of voir dire to determine what evidence is admissible, and the actual trial is expected to begin the second week of February. The jurors were asked a dozen questions of each juror concerning their knowledge of the case, any possible connections to the people involved in it, and whether or not they had one or more relatives who were gay or lesbian. The only one who had a body shop parlor was a homosexual might affect their ability to judge fairly and impartially. Most said that it would not. One man who had been a body shop parlor owner, concerned, I can't stand homosexuals."

Others also admitted that this could affect their impartiality. These were not chosen in the jury selection process. The only one of the four accused, Saul Betesh, appeared actively interested in the proceedings. Betesh seemed relaxed

Body Politic/11

The Christian/Right-wing intrigue

To the outside observer, the Trent referendum could be tied up into a neat, self-contained package, instead, troublesome loose ends remain. Issue ends that hold tight all the campus and into the politics of local churches and right-wing political groups.

THE CHURCHES

At the same time that McIsaac was gathering signatures on his petition, Alastair Shephard, a member of the Ontario Fellowship, was drawing up for presentation to his fellow, albeit statement on homosexuality. The statement predicted that characterized homosexuality as "abnormal" and "noted that homosexuals deserved to be hated."

An "Anonymous" document, THA contacted Christian Fellowship president Ivan Dyer Dyer is said to have replied that his group had to adopt a statement on homosexuality because it was under "transmuted pressures" from parents, priests, ministers and religious groups across the province to do so.

Shephard's effort was not accepted by the TCF membership, who were to draw and adopted a less crudely worded statement of the same kind. But the fact that Dyer yielded to pressure from across the province is significant.

It is unlikely that religious groups across Ontario would all suddenly decide that Trent Christian Fellowship had to have a position on homosexuality — the McIsaac petition was not yet

public knowledge. If Dyer's statement is to be taken at face value, it would appear that he was contacted as part of a province-wide campaign to mobilize religious organizations against gays.

THE RIGHT

In the midst of the referendum campaign, Trent Student Union president Geoffrey Tremblay announced that he would not sign a cheque to turn over to Trent Homophile Association money which had already been voted to it by the student union. TCU treasurer Justin Chu, who had already signed the cheque supported the action by removing his signature. Despite threats of impeachment from the student union the two continued to hold back the funds until the referendum was held.

Chu told THA member Lee Shropshire that he and Tremblay had asked the advice of University counsel Samuel Murphy.

The suggestion complained about Murphy's interference to Trent University president Thomas King. "I had afterwards said that, when questioned, Murphy had denied speaking to Chu."

The missing pieces in this small puzzle are the two, Murphy as a prominent member of the local Progressive Conservative Party, jockeying for a position in the fight for the upcoming federal nomination. He is also believed to be a member of the Renaissance Party. Gordon Tremblay is a member of the Young Progressive Conservatives. □

and remarkably healthy after six months in isolation imprisonment. There were frequent consultations between Betesh and his lawyer. Kribbs appeared agitated and restless, and at one point while talking to his lawyer, angry. Occasionally, Woods would speak to Kribbs, while Gruener remained immobile throughout.

The trial promised to continue to attract widespread publicity as details of the murder came out in testimony. The jury will likely be sequestered in a downtown hotel and deprived of access to the media for the duration of the trial.

by Robin Hardy □

Feminists organize against violence

Women Against Violence Against Women (WAVAW) in its short three month life has attracted widespread support from Toronto lesbians and feminists. The group is dedicated to raising publicly the issue of violence against women and organizing women to put an end to it.

The group grew out of a November 5 International Day of Protest Against Violence Against Women. Continuing demonstrations against the movie *Snuff* brought large numbers of women to the organization.

Since November, WAVAW has been involved in work towards the decriminalization of prostitution, the inauguration of a Remembrance Day ceremony "for every woman raped in every war," protests against the sexist and racist deportation of immigrant women, action against Renaissance International's anti-feminist, homophobic "Christian Liberation Crusade" which brought Anita Bryant to Canada, and organizing with local women against domestic and street violence in the suburbs.

WAVAW's active and highly visible presence in the gay/feminist events during Anita Bryant's visit to Toronto were seen as powerful evidence of the group's vitality and ability to mobilize women in the city.

Anyone wishing to contact WAVAW is urged to write: WAVAW, Box 929, Stn O, Toronto, Ontario.

by David Gibson □

Quebec

Truxx accused organize own defence

A Committee of the Accused has been formed to organize the defence of those arrested in the October 22 Truxx raid. The committee is made up of 70 of those charged and it has done the bulk of the work involved so far.

On October 22, 145 men had been arrested in a spectacular raid on the popular Montreal gay bar on charges of being "found-ins in a bawdy house." This led to a massive gay demonstration in which 2000 took to the streets the following night in protest (See TBP, Dec 7-7 Jan 78).

Over \$1000 has already been raised for what will be an expensive but precedent-setting court battle. Half of this amount has come from a benefit held by Truxx bar where the raid took place.

The committee is still in need of financial contributions. Those wishing to assist can send their contributions to the Association pour les droits des gais et lesbiens (ADGL), CP 36, Succ. C, Montreal, clearly marking it for the Committee of the Accused.

The committee and ADGO are still pressing for a full enquiry into the raid and the dropping of all charges. Trial dates have been set for the month of June.

The committee's lawyer, Jeff Richardson, is testing the legality of the VD tests which the accused were forced to undergo the night of the arrest and as a further bail condition. The physical examinations were administered under a regulation of the provincial Public Health Protection Act passed in 1975, stating that, when a person is apprehended or imprisoned for a "sexual offence", that

person must undergo a VD test.

New information has recently come to light of a raid earlier in the summer of the Dominion Square Tavern, another downtown bar. 25 men were arrested at "found-ins." In January the owner was tried and found guilty of operating a bawdy house.

by Ron Dayman □



Supreme Court to hear GATE appeal

On December 14, 1977, the Supreme Court of Canada agreed to hear its first gay appeal. The Vancouver Gay Alliance Toward Equality (GATE) is contesting the decision of the British Columbia Court of Appeal which ruled against GATE and the British Columbia Human Rights Commission in their case against the Vancouver Sun.

If the Supreme Court of Canada allows the appeal it will be the first case Canada in which gays are recognized as a minority entitled to protection and rights under Canadian law. A Supreme Court decision sets a precedent which has national significance in legislation and judicial processes in every province in Canada.

The British Columbia Court of Appeal had ruled in its decision by a Human Rights Board of Inquiry and the British Columbia Supreme Court which held that the Sun was guilty of discrimination against gays in refusing to publish a classified advertisement for Gay Tide. On November 8, 1977, a three-man tribunal of the Court of Appeal, which included Justice Branca who had ruled in favour of the Sun, refused GATE's leave to appeal to the federal court. On November 21, application was made directly to the Supreme Court of Canada.

The application was heard by Chief Justice Bora Laskin and Justices Spence and Estey. GATE's lawyer, Harry Kopyto (one of the lawyers in the Damien case), in his opening statement to the tribunal said: "The main issue in this appeal is whether homosexuals are excluded from coverage under the BC Human Rights Code."

The case against the Vancouver Sun was based on Section 3(1) of the BC Human Rights Code which states that no one shall deny to any person or class of persons the use of any service customarily available to the public "unless reasonable cause exists for such denial or discrimination." Justice Branca stated that "if the bias (against gays) was honestly entertained, then there was not an unreasonable bias."

A spokesperson for GATE said that Branca's judgement means that "if prejudice exists, that is reason for it to continue to exist..." and the reasonable cause provisions of the BC Human Rights Code are rendered effectively impotent. According to BC Human Rights Commission director Kathleen Ruff, 63% of the human rights cases currently pending are affected by Branca's definition.

The BC Human Rights Commission, which supports GATE and has been represented by leave of the court in each of the preceding appeals, has not yet been granted the right to be represented in this appeal by the Supreme Court of Canada. GATE is thus far appealing alone, and will attempt to maintain basic gay rights issues throughout although "this is increasingly difficult as we go higher in the courts." GATE's lawyer, Kopyto, in a statement to TBP said, "The human rights issue is going to be central and up front and I'm going to keep hammering away at it."

The appeal may be heard as early as May of 1978.

The appeal is estimated to cost \$8,500 of which \$3,800 has already been raised from the gay community of BC.

by Robin Hardy □

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CBC management has adopted a new "equal opportunity policy" which guarantees gays, other minority groups and women, job protection and equal consideration for employment.

In a letter addressed to all staff, President A.W. Johnson said: "Because of the great importance which I attach to this policy, I wanted to inform you personally of its existence and to ensure that you have a copy of the text." Helen McVay of the CBC office of Equal Opportunity said there have been no situations where the policy has been applied so far. "The policy is there, so there can be no argument." She noted that employees will have "ammunition to openly discuss things with their supervisors."

Damien defense enters fourth year

February marks the third anniversary of John Damien's hiring from the Ontario Racing Commission. In observance of this, the Committee to Defend John Damien is launching its Project Pledge card. "We're looking for 100 Canadians to pledge ten dollars a month to the next year towards John's defense," explained Michael Lynch, Chairperson of the Committee.

Project Pledge card is being introduced at a gala film weekend in Toronto in mid-February, Lynch said. In cooperation with the Lesbian Organization of Toronto, the Defense Committee is sponsoring a benefit screening of two films: "In the Best Interests of the Children" and "Gay USA." On the opening night, the films will be followed by a reception for guests of honour and a Damien defense dance (see ad, page 10). The Committee began planning its fourth year of operation at a conference in early December. Several entertainment fundraisers and a speaker's bureau are included in the plans, along with the long-planned project.

Officers elected in December included Lynch, Brent Hawkes, Trevor Montford-Smith, Bill Lewis, and Jim Dougan. One of the first undertakings of the Committee after adopting a constitution last fall was to work out an agreement with the John Damien Foundation which will soon be announced to gay groups in Canada. The Committee has committed itself to raise money for the Legal Defense Fund that is administered by the Foundation.

"I'm glad that this agreement is being worked out and that the two groups will be working together," John Damien recently commented.

New groups formed

For further information on these new groups, see the Community Page (pg 23). **Sask. Gay Coalition**

The Saskatchewan Gay Coalition, the country's third provincial group, was formed at a December meeting in Regina.

The objectives of the new organization are political, social and educational action to ensure full human rights for all gay men and lesbians in Saskatchewan. The Coalition is to be a non-sexist organization in which women will hold at least 10 per cent of the decision-making power. In recognition of the common oppression of women and gays, the Saskatchewan Gay Coalition has also included amongst its goals, support for feminist issues of concern to all women.

At present, the Coalition members are the Regina Gay Community, Gay Community Centre of Saskatoon, Gay Academic Union (Saskatoon), Lesbian Caucus of Saskatoon's Women's Liberation and Gay Alliance of Youth (Saskatoon).

Susan Langiers of Regina and Doug Wilson of Saskatoon were chosen coordinators, with Kay Bierwiler and Wieslis Kolasinka of Saskatoon and Terry Nelson and Marg Taylor of Regina as an ad hoc steering committee.

Ont. Gay Teachers' Caucus

A milestone event occurred recently when a number of gay teachers met near Guelph to found the Ontario Gay Teachers' Caucus. They discussed issues of common concern, including employment protection for gay teachers, problems of gay students, and sex education in the schools.

Gay Friends of Concordia

A new Montreal gay group, Gay Friends of Concordia, meets weekly to inform members of events around the city and to discuss current issues of interest to gays.

Murray Nicol, president of the group, feels that the organization is an excellent alternative to gay bars and is more conducive to meeting people, developing relationships, and exchanging ideas. "Future plans include featured speakers on specific cultural areas of interest to gay students, such as homosexuality and the Renaissance, or homosexuality and painting."

Univ. of Victoria Gay Club

A new British Columbia group, the University of Victoria Gay Club, has been formed. The representative assembly of the student body has ratified the club and agreed to provide funding.

SEARCH Youth Group

The SEARCH Youth Group in Vancouver offers gay people under 21 a place to

meet on a friendly basis. The youth group operates independently of the Society for Education, Action, Research & Counseling in Homosexuality (SEARCH), which provides space for meetings. There are rap sessions for discussing mutual problems of being young and gay. The group initiates social events and provides peer group counselling as well as information on VO and coming out.

Gays at Toronto

A new gay group has formed on the University of Toronto campus. Gays at Toronto (GAT) has been given official recognition by the University administration, making it eligible for financial support and campus space. Students have felt the need for a social and discussion group which was autonomous from the faculty identified Gay Academic Union. The initiative for forming the new group first came when the U of T Sexual Counselling Centre refused to use gay counselors. GAT is now meeting regularly. Information can be obtained by phoning 923-GAYS.

Parents of Gays Calgary

When Marjorie Crews became angered about recent harassment of gays in Calgary, she decided to form Parents of Gays to promote understanding and education. Her son is gay.

Mrs. Crews saw an ad in *The Advocate* for a Parents of Gays Association in New York City. Since then she has had help from the NYC group and from Betty Fair-

child, an American organizer and author, MCC minister Lloyd Greeway arranged for Mrs. Crews to speak to the various gay groups in Calgary.

Gay men and lesbians are invited to attend and assist parents who are "just coming out." Parents who have learned to accept and understand their children are especially welcome.

Free Lesbians and Gays

Free Lesbians and Gays (FLAG) emerged from the Coalition to Stop Anita Bryant, the group which organized two large demonstrations in Toronto in the summer of 1977. A number of people involved felt there was a continuing need for a loosely-structured organization which could deal with day-to-day problems in the gay community and respond to individual initiatives. They felt that the established groups seemed to have little energy for immediate problems not related to their long-term goals.

A spokesperson decided FLAG as "a stepping stone between gays who aren't political and other gay liberation groups."

FLAG is presently organizing a response to the Toronto Sun's attacks on the gay community.

Plans are also underway to present a brief to the Metro Toronto Police to urge improvement of relations with the gay community. Other FLAG members will meet with bar owners to discuss the problems encountered by people passing out leaflets.

Report to Pink Triangle supporters. 1

We have this problem

January, February and March are the months when Pink Triangle Press regularly asks its supporters to donate money for the ongoing operations of the press. This year, as part of that effort, we decided we would make a series of reports on our activities. We thought you should know how your money has been used, how it has helped us to grow, allowed us to do other essential movement work, and encouraged us to plan for the coming years.

But, at the moment, we have the problem our office has been asked, many of our files seized. The officers of Pink Triangle have been charged under two obscenity statutes. You can read all about it elsewhere in this issue.

It promises to be a long and expensive battle. A committee has been organized to help in the defence, and to raise money for legal costs. So suddenly it may seem there's a lot of *Body Politic* fund-raising going on. We must not upon—asked for money more than once. We hope you understand.

There are a couple of things you should know to begin with. The *Body Politic* Free Press Fund has been set up only to meet legal costs. The money is held in trust by Lynn King, a Toronto feminist lawyer. We can't touch it. It can never be turned over to us and added to the budget of Pink Triangle Press. And that's the way we wanted it. Clean. No question of who's been pocketing what or who's been spending defence money ineptly.

Which leads us to the other problem we have. The defence fund can only be used for legal costs. But the defence committee has to operate on a day-to-day basis: printing letters, flyers and posters and mailing them; making

phone calls; putting out press releases; organizing fund-raising events; and taking out ads. The money for all of that has to come out of the operating budget of Pink Triangle Press. This too is the way we wanted it. If the

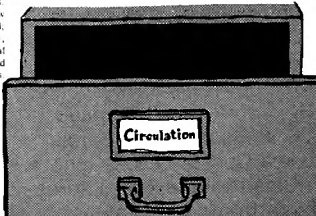
money for these activities has to come from an already poor organization we are more likely to proceed carefully. Experience in other defence committees has shown that large amounts of money can easily be spent on apparently good ideas, but with little effect. That seems unfair to donors, and that is one way to avoid it.

The big problem, then, is that this year Pink Triangle Press is going to have to raise more money than ever before. Response to our fund-raising has always been good. (Reports in the next three *TBPs* will explain what we've done and what we hope to do with the money raised.) We will need as much as ever for ongoing operations.

Now we need money for the defence fund activities too. Our lawyer has said that the case will be a long one, legal costs may be as much as \$30,000. To raise that much money we estimate that the defence committee will require at least \$2,000 this year.

So we're asking you, if you can, to be more generous than usual in your donation this year. If you've already given to the Free Press Fund we want to say thank you. If you can give again—and we're aware that maybe you can't—we'd appreciate it. If you've never given before, we hope you'll consider it now. *The Body Politic*, and the gay movement needs your help to defend itself and to continue its activities.

We're all in this together.



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Confessions of a lunchroom subversive

Riding home on the subway one afternoon last year Pam, a friend and fellow worker, confided to me that she would never have guessed I was gay "except for the way you talk so openly about yourself at coffee and lunch breaks." It wasn't in a flippant or a barbed "compliment" the way that remark often is. It was an admission that lesbians weren't really part of her daily experience.

Pam and I and two other straight women, Marilyn and Mary Lynn, shared a table in the lunch room at work for about a year. We also shared each other's writing. Mary Lynn used to edit this column—it's gone down hill it's because she no longer works with me, good conversation, humour and the occasional alter-work get together. My experiences, opinions and perspective as a lesbian and an activist were a legitimate part of our exchanges. It was, and is, a good feeling.

Shortly after Anita Bryant's anti-gay message hit the media, Marilyn came bristling into the lunchroom and threw a copy of the Sun on the table. "What can we do about this woman?" She wanted to demonstrate. "I'll carry a sign for you." She and Pam and Mary Lynn were caught up by the anti-Bryant glow. "A day without human rights is like a day without sunshine." Three straight women wanted to do something about gay rights.

Six months later, Anita Bryant showed up in Toronto. It was a bitterly cold Sunday night, but we demonstrated in spite of it. Pam and Marilyn were there. After the demonstration Marilyn and I sat down at the lunch table to compare our impressions. Mary Lynn and Pam have gone on to bigger and better things (freelancing and travel) so we share the table now with two newcomers.

Marilyn said she'd come to the demonstration because she disagrees with what Anita Bryant is doing. Really for two reasons. Because of Bryant's crusade against homosexuals and because of her beliefs concerning women—especially with regard to abortion.

She was impressed with the feminist emphasis of the demonstration. "It was a positive step to have the two groups (gays and feminists) together."

But demonstrating, she says, is something contrary to her upbringing. She was brought up to believe in established channels. She feels that demonstrating puts a person one step closer to violence, something she has always tried to avoid. But as she talked about her experiences that Sunday night it became clear to me where that feeling had come from. It wasn't that demonstrators were necessarily violent, but that their opponents certainly can be.

Despite the risks, Marilyn now feels it's important to demonstrate. "There are at least two sides to every issue. It is the responsibility of people who hold beliefs to stand up for them." In this case she felt it was important to show Toronto that not all straights think like Anita Bryant.

Being able to show that depends partly on getting publicity. That was the source of a whole education, too. The media really does play and distorted what was happening that weekend.

"Television didn't exactly give us equal time with Anita," Marilyn said, "and the newspapers would have had everyone believe there were only gay people on

those demonstrations. There were lots of non-gay supporters besides Pam and me."

I asked Marilyn how she felt about being in a minority—meaning a straight person on a predominantly gay demonstration. But she took the question a different way—she was one of a minority of people who had dared to take a vocal and visible stand against Anita Bryant.

Her strongest reaction seemed to be to the hecklers at the demo. To those who stood and baited, trying to provoke the demonstrators. "It was my first real, concrete involvement doing anything for the gay movement. I was glad I did it, but I felt frightened by the reaction of some of the observers. I guess now I feel the intimidation that gay people must face all the time." She felt not so much a minority among gay people, but, for a while, some of what it's like to be a part of the gay minority.

Like many of us that night, she was impressed that the demonstration was very well marshalled. The provocateurs were probably disappointed. As she put it, "the demonstrators showed remarkable self-restraint."

Did she think that any of what the marchers said was offensive? "No, really. The chants were a bit boring—repetitive, and too much like highschool cheerleading. Actually, I made one up myself. 1, 2, 3, 4 Renaissance is wrong once more, 5, 6, 7, 8 Renaissance discriminates. But nobody wanted to chant it."

Going home after the demonstration was an experience in itself, at least for those of us who took the TTC. Thirty of us—the stragglers that I was with—eventually took over a bus and then a subway car. We sang "offensive" songs, led by rowdy East York dykes from the Gay Offensive Collective, all the way from Sheppard to Bloor. When the group split to go east and west we were a bit nervous, but still singing and chanting. The TTC didn't know what had hit it.

Marilyn and Pam were among a group that walked to the subway—one and a quarter miles, through the wilds of North York. Marilyn said the spirit was high and she felt a lot safer than she would have had they been alone. But she was still disturbed by the reactions of passers-by who knew or assumed they had been among the demonstrators.

"When people in our group were chanting on the subway there was one creep that Pam pointed out to me who looked like he could have gotten violent. He was muttering under his breath about us being sick, that kind of shit. Most people just looked like they didn't believe it was all happening. When we got to Yonge and Bloor there were these two punks that I recognized, from outside the church, hanging around the station. They had been really belittled before and still seemed to be looking for trouble. I don't know, maybe I was just being super-sensitive, I'm not used to that kind of treatment and hostility."

When I asked Marilyn if she would do it again she said, "Yes, definitely" without hesitation.

Lesbians are not alien to these two women any more. Our community and our rights are a part of their very real concerns now. And all because of what was once a very strange phenomenon on the other side of the lunch table.

by Chris Bearchell

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A Smothering Complacency

"The purpose of journalism or of any other means of communication is, in the last analysis, understanding." So runs the first sentence of the introduction to a book published late last year by the Canadian Daily Newspaper Publishers Association. It's just as well the CDNPA decided to put that down in black and white, few informed readers would have otherwise detected that high purpose at work in the pages of their daily paper.

A recent column (Jan. 17) by *The Globe and Mail's* provincial affairs columnist, Norman Webster, is worth considering in this light. In it Webster states that, in the question of amending human rights legislation, the real issue is not equal employment and housing rights for gays — the real issue, says Webster, is whether "gay is twice as good as straight." Webster knows this because that's what "the gay community" chanted outside People's Church while Anita Bryant peddled orange juice in-side.

In a progression of similarly indiscriminate caricatures, Webster arrives at his finger-wagging climax:

"But if that right is to include proselytizing or the teaching of homosexuality in the schools by homosexual instructors or swinging adult males having affairs with young boys — all things loudly demanded by militants in the movement, — then forget it. It's just not on."

Most gay people, in or out of the movement, would not recognize themselves or anyone else in this description. It would be easy to conclude that, whatever the CDNPA may intone, the purpose of Webster's journalism is not understanding, but calculated misrepresentation.

I called Webster a few days after his column appeared. It seemed only fair that I should attempt to understand why he wrote what he did before coming to any conclusion.

I asked him which "militants in the movement" were "loudly demanding" "the teaching of homosexuality in the schools by homosexual instructors." He replied he heard that at an all-candidates meeting sponsored by the Gay Alliance Toward Equality during the 1977 Ontario election campaign.

I then asked who at the meeting had made this particular demand. This is an important point, since anyone can walk into such a gathering off the street. He said "some spokespersons for gay organizations" had presented the demand.

I asked Webster which groups these spokespersons claimed to represent. Journalist Webster couldn't remember.

Finally, I asked him whether he had spoken with any representatives of the gay movement before writing his column. No, he had not. He added quite casually, as if he weren't condemning himself out of his own mouth, that he hadn't been at the demonstration at People's Church either.

Here we have a journalist, a respected one, I suppose, calmly admitting that he wrote a column purporting to discuss "the heart of the current debate" over gay rights without a shred of investigation or evidence. Yet, I did not get the impression in my brief exchange with Webster that he is a malicious man who is using his platform to deliberately distort the public image of the gay movement.

The key to Webster's attitude is to be found, I think, in a column published earlier this year in which he excuses himself and his fellow journalists for uncovering the Ontario NDP leadership race on the grounds that the party "has done almost nothing to get people interested." There is Webster's conception of journalism: It's not his job to cover the NDP; rather, it's up to the NDP to interest him.

What we have to deal with here is not bigotry, but a smothering complacency which exalts speculation over investigation. How much easier to interpret the gay movement in a framework of ready-to-hand stereotypes and myths than to go out and talk to the people involved. Pursued in this spirit, journalism simply rationalizes prejudice and becomes propaganda for the status quo.

by Ken Poport

February

John Damien wishes to thank all those who expressed their condolences after the recent death of his father.

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CORRECTION

The Children's and Youth Institutions Branch of the Province of Ontario's Ministry of Community and Social Services has requested that "registration pending" be added to any Tri-Aid House literature which states that Tri-Aid House is registered under the Province's Children's Boarding Home Act.

United States Houston: unity!



The National Women's Conference held in Houston in November has been widely hailed as a victory for lesbian and gay rights because of the support given a sexual preference resolution by the majority of delegates. The conference was also a vivid demonstration of the unity and continuing vitality of the American women's movement.

Lesbian issues were completely ignored at the 1975 United Nations Women's Year Conference in Mexico City. When the United States Congress subsequently authorized a national conference for American women, lesbians were determined to end their invisibility.

The Houston Conference was the culmination of 56 state and territorial meetings held to elect delegates and to propose resolutions. These meetings produced the National Plan of Action, a set of 25 resolutions which focused on the conference's objectives: "to identify the barriers that prevent women from participating fully and equally in all aspects of national life and to recommend ways to eliminate them."

As a result of the lesbian organization's efforts, more than 36 state conferences approved a resolution to make sexual preference part of the proposed National Plan of Action reads: Congress, state and local legislators should enact legislation to eliminate discrimination on the basis of sexual and gender preference in areas including but not limited to employment, housing, public accommodation, credit, public facilities, government funding and the military.

State legislators should reform their penal codes or repeal State laws that restrict private sexual behaviour between consenting adults. State legislators should enact legislation that would prohibit consideration of sexual or affectional orientation as a factor in any judicial determination of custody or visitation rights. Rather, child custody cases should be evaluated solely on the merits of which party is the better parent, without regard to that person's sexual or affectional orientation.

In contrast to the earlier Mexico City conference, Houston delegates represented a broad spectrum of income, race and occupation. Of the 2,000 delegates, 30% were from minority groups, and many were welfare recipients, housewives or immigrants. There were at least 15% from lesbian delegates.

The Right was represented as well. Despite prior fears that the Ku Klux Klan, John Birchers, militant Catholics, and Mormons were going to wreck the conference, the "Pro-Family" forces never managed to control more than 20 percent of delegate votes and were unsuccessful with their obstruction tactics. A counter rally was also staged by the Right to Life Movement, the anti-Equal Rights Amendment lobby and homosexual evangelist sects. Anti-gay and anti-woman rhetoric abounded.

Gay Smothers, a Texas representative, told the crowd, "I've had enough of rights to choose a hungry goal. I just ask for Mr. Carter to help us attain victory over the pervers in this country."

Delegates considered the ERA resolution the most important but "sexual preference" was the most controversial. When Betty Friedan, "matriarch of the American women's movement" reversed her long-standing objection to support for lesbian issues, it was clear that the tide had turned. As the resolution was adopted, thousands of

ballot boxes were released in the hall, carrying the message "We are everywhere." Quilts, Bunch, floor leader of the lesbian caucus, described the significance of the vote for lesbian rights:

"We, the lesbians, the women's movement has now joined up with the gay rights movement. For all gay people — men and women — this is tremendously important. It represents one of the most important coalitions the gay rights movement can have. I think it's the biggest breakthrough for gay rights yet."

Francie Wyland, a member of Wages Due Lesbians, Toronto, was active in the non-delegate lesbian caucus. The caucus proposed two amendments to the "sexual preference" resolution relating to the financial status of women and their economic independence. Delegates decided finally not to propose the amendments since it was felt that last-minute changes might jeopardize smooth passage of the resolution.

A major victory, according to Wyland, was the change to the resolution on the "sexual preference" resolution was virtually identical to President Carter's proposals for welfare reform which effectively cut back on welfare to women. A new resolution was drafted by welfare recipients themselves, and called for improvements in the welfare system to eliminate poverty among women.

Lesbians were active in promoting this new resolution adopted by the conference. Women at Houston also voted in favour of abortion on demand, the federal and state subsidies if necessary. They called for legislation to improve the position of women from minority groups in the United States, and to end the federal and Congress to institute a policy of full employment so that all women who wished to work could do so.

They asked for a national health plan and the extension of social security benefits to housewives. They demanded federal funding for child care and programmes for battered women and victims of child abuse. They urged that educational materials be free or sex-role stereotyping and that programmes be set up to overcome isolation, poverty and under-employment among rural women, and urged an end to discrimination against women in business, credit, insurance, foreign affairs decision-making or the media. Poverty and welfare were seen as major women's issues and a guaranteed income was demanded.

All the resolutions making up the National Plan of Action were passed except one calling for a National Women's Department. Delegates felt that it was not their place to demand. Wyland, like other delegates, feels the conference was a "tremendous victory" — not a woman who was there will ever forget it. Women at the bottom, blacks, immigrants, welfare women and lesbians took the conference into their own hands. A whole new chapter has opened for the women's movement in that it was led by those women with the least power.

The resolution package will soon be in the hands of President Carter and Congress, who will debate the legislative action. The government is not expected to act dramatically on them.

But, as one delegate declared, "The Conference was a success not because of its effects on the legislature, but because it has ended the isolation of American women with a powerful demonstration of unity. Feminism has emerged with a national programme."

by Tim McKaskill

Koch bans discrimination

Recently elected New York Mayor Edward Koch has issued a landmark ordinance barring discrimination against homosexuals in civic employment. All city employees including firemen and police are to be included in the order.

The move followed closely on Koch's January 1st inauguration, at which a group of gay people picketed, urging speedy action on Koch's pro-gay campaign promises. Koch has been an active supporter of gay rights throughout his political career.

A bachelor, Koch was the subject of gay-baiting at the end of his mayoral campaign, when supporters of his opponent, Mario Cuomo, coined the slogan, "Vote for Cuomo, not the Homo." The slur backfired as it did not have affected the outcome of the vote.

Harvey Milk elected in S.F.

In a clear victory over 16 other candidates in San Francisco's district elections, Harvey Milk has become the first acknowledged gay person to sit on a legislative body of a major American city. Milk's election after a strong grassroots campaign is considered a serious blow to the Democratic Party machine, big business and real estate interests and is an upset for the gay business establishment who supported another gay candidate.

Diana Press bounces back

The presses are printing again in the Press, a lesbian feminist publishing company in Oakland, California. On October 25 the press was valued resulting in damages of almost \$100,000 and the last months lost production. Colella Reid, a senior editor feels that either the extreme right or the FBI are responsible for the attack. It was recently revealed that another feminist press, Big Mama Rag was vandalized by the FBI in 1975.

Employees at Diana have voluntarily cut salaries and are working overtime so that books scheduled for this fall can appear in the spring. Glad Day Press in Toronto received its first shipment from Oakland on January 23. Over \$3000 has already been contributed to put the press back on its feet. Donations can be sent to Diana Press, 4400 Market Street, Oakland, California.

APAOKS gay teachers

The American Psychiatric Association has issued a statement strongly in support of the right of gays to teach in public schools. The APA president concluded a recent statement by saying that the movement to tighten the American public about homosexual influences on schoolchildren is unfounded scientifically. All citizens, he said, should resist this movement.

Bryant suit dismissed, appeal filed

An appeal has been filed against a federal judge's order dismissing Anita Bryant and Sandra G. Childers as defendants in the \$5 million lawsuit brought by the mother of a slain gay man. Helen Hillebrand charges that anti-gay bigotry still lurks up by Bryant was a contributing factor in her son's murder by four men who screamed "This one's for Anita" as they repeatedly stabbed him. The judge had exonerated Bryant and Childers, but Hillebrand contends that they lacked contacts with California. The appeal is based on Bryant's close contact with Senator John Briggs and his now postponed initiative against gay school teachers in the state.

Suits stops police hotline

Early in December, 24 Boston men were issued a sit tight press-labeled "boy sex ring." The Boston Herald published names and addresses of all those accused and the Globe headlined a "Child Porn Case." Police pressed a hundred men into the "Hot Line" was set up for secret denunciations to the police.

The ring has turned out to be largely the invention of the press and DA Garrett Byrne. Many of those charged were accused of unrelated crimes. No pornography was involved. None of the men have been accused of violence and most of the "boys" were teenagers.

The Boston Boycott Committee was set

up with broad support in the gay community to deal with the issue and to combat media distortions. The Committee has issued a press action plan and forced the hot-line to close down.

The Boston Boycott Committee is seeking contributions in labour and money. The address is Box 277, Astor Station, Boston, MA 02123, USA.

Gay News appeals

The appeal of Gay News in its blasphemous libel case will be heard by the Court of Criminal Appeal on February 13. The London based newspaper carried on, appealing the conviction and sentence handed down last July when a poem in the paper was found to be blasphemous under an almost impossible British law. Nearly 100 public figures from the arts, politics, theology and the media have signed a statement deploring the conviction. A mass demonstration in support of the paper is being planned before the appeal is heard.

Many Whitehouse, a British anti-gay figurehead who successfully brought charges against the magazine, has claimed that the gay movement is one of "40 strategies" of a Communist plot to destroy Western civilization. The plan, he claims, is "to poison a community by changing its moral and healthy."

Australia urged to OK gay sex

In a recent report to the Australian government, the Royal Commission on the Status of Homosexuals has called for the decriminalization of homosexual acts between consenting adults.

The report also urges equality for gays and lesbians in the workplace and public decency cases and a homosexual component in sex education. The commissioners also call for schools, churches and the media to join in a campaign to begin changing public attitudes toward homosexuals.

Two weeks earlier, on November 16, a bill to decriminalize homosexual acts was dropped in the Australian Parliament. Australia's state legislature despite strong public support for the move. Premier Sir Charles Court called the bill "abhorrent and evil."

Soviet Union expels gay

Five gays recently chained themselves together in front of the Soviet embassy in Rome to protest the expulsion of Angelo Del Boca, an Italian gay leader, from the Soviet Union. Pezzana had held a press conference in Moscow to protest Soviet treatment of gays, and focused on Sergei Paradzhanov, a Soviet film director whose work had been labeled "perverse" by the gay. Soviet law calls for penalties of up to five years for commission of homosexual acts. Subsequent to the publicity, Paradzhanov was reportedly released.

Dutch find Time to put US in place

A full-page ad criticizing Anita Bryant's crusade against gay rights has appeared in Time magazine. The American magazine was signed by Dutch writers and government officials from around the world. \$40,000 was raised to pay for the ad, a large portion of it coming from a benefit race in Amsterdam which was supported by the mayor of the city. The ad, headlined "What's going on in America?", expressed surprise that fundamental human rights are being withheld or weakened in the United States. It accuses American politicians of lacking courage to stand up to Bryant's bigotry.

Spanish gays take to streets

More than a thousand people participated in a gay liberation march in Barcelona on December 4, calling for the repeal of Spain's anti-gay "Social Danger Law." The demonstration, organized by the Catalan Homosexual Liberation Front, received support from Communists and Anarchists, both important political forces in this northern Spanish region. Spanish Communist Party leader Santiago Carrillo had previously told a Harvard University audience that his party respects the affectional preference of all its members. "The party's areas and we see no reason for the party to go into them."

Body Politic/17

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Monitor

Gay in the Seventies

When Weekend decided to get this picture together, they wanted "just average gay people," nobody who worked with an exclusively gay business, nobody who was a "professional homosexual" (?!), and nobody who was unemployed. All very respectable.

Archibald's what they got. In all, that's what it made it look like they got. The caption tells quite nicely what everyone does, professions, researches, origins. All quite true. But what they did not mention is that every person in the picture except two either is now or has been actively involved in the gay liberation movement.

Just for kicks, here's a revised caption to the photo: 1. Ian Young, a co-founder of Canada's first gay lib group, the University of Toronto Homophile Association; founder of the gay publishing house, Catalyst Press; regular writer for *The Body Politic*. 2. Trevor Mountford-Smith, member of the Gay Alliance toward Equality, secretary of the Committee to Defend John Darnley.

3. Michael Lynch, regular contributor to, and former co-chairman of, *The Body Politic*, presently chairman of the Committee to Defend John Darnley. 4. Bill Lewis, early member of Gays for Equality in Winnipeg, currently part of the news staff for *The Body Politic*.

mon-itor (mōn-ē-tər). One that cautions, admonishes or reminds. Any device used to record or control a process. (fr. v.) To check, to test, to keep track of, to scrutinize, to keep watch over, to direct. (Latin, one who warns, from *monere*, to warn.)

The last month of 1977 saw the most upbeat and extensive coverage of gays in Canada ever. "Gay in the Seventies," written by gay poet/publisher Ian Young, appeared in *Weekend Magazine* on December 17. The magazine, carried by thirty-two newspapers across Canada, has a circulation of 1.7 million.

Young's straightforward account of gay social and political progress in the last ten years was accompanied by two photographs. Inside, there was a double-page spread of twenty-one smiling gay men and women and one baby. On the cover, were two unidentified males, one intense and alluring, the other, light-tipped and cautious. Both wore gold chains and their shirts open to the fourth button.

When asked by *The Body Politic* if there were any explanation for the marked difference in tone between the two photos, Weekend editor John Macfarlane said that the photos were chosen by the magazine's art director and that he himself had not noticed any such difference and was pleased with both of them. The cover photo was shot by a New York photographer, said Macfarlane. "The citizenship of the subjects didn't seem to matter."

Before publication, the text of the article was the subject of much discussion among the author, *Weekend* associate editor Judy Stottman, and people concerned about such things as adequate coverage of lesbian concerns. Editorial assistant Linda Watson told *The Body Politic* that the article elicited a large response from its readership, somewhere between 100 and 200 letters,

5. Rosemary Barak: an active member of the Lesbian Organization of Toronto (LOOT). 6. John Lee: head of the Toronto Gay Academic Union. 7. Ron Shearer: an early and very active member of the Community Homophile Association of Toronto (CHAT), the city's biggest and most important gay group in the early seventies. 8. Marie Robertson: a former member of Gays of Ottawa, presently active with Lesbians of Ottawa Now (LOON). 9. Mark Whitehead: co-founder and still co-ordinator of Gay Youth Toronto, and a former member of the Committee to Defend John Darnley. 10. Charlie Hill: another co-founder of the University of Toronto Homophile Association, and one of the people who helped start Gays of Ottawa. 11. Edgar Friesenbergh: writer on the sociology of adolescence.

12. Jim Gault: active in the Gay Academic Union, an early volunteer with the Canadian Gay Archives. 13. David Gibson: past secretary of the Committee to Defend John Darnley; news editor and collective member of *The Body Politic*. 14. David Gorman: active in Gays of Ottawa; former co-ordinator of the Montreal Gay Rights Coalition; *The Body Politic*'s Ottawa news correspondent. 15. Carole Barnes: member of the Gay Academic Union and an occasional news writer for *The Body*

compared to an average response of 3.5. Readers' reactions were largely negative.

Easily the national media's longest and farthest presentation of a gay spokes-person came on Sunday, January 21, when CBC Radio's Cross Country Checkup featured Ottawa's Charlie Hill as special guest. Hill, pictured in the *Weekend Magazine* photograph, parried with callers-in from across the country, often challenging their biblical hermeneutics. Among them were two with whom he didn't part: Rev. Joanne Monti from Montreal's Metropolitan Community Church, and Gordon Fairweather, who affirmed his strong working support for "sexual orientation" in the new Human Rights Act. Fairweather is Chief Commissioner for the Canadian Human Rights Commission.

Canadian novelist Timothy Findley, author of *The Last of the Crazy People*, *The Butterfly Plague*, and most recently, *The Wars*, is profiled in the December issue of *Quill and Quire*, a trade paper for the Canadian book industry. Talking about his homosexuality, Findley is quoted as saying: "I've solved it as far as I am concerned, but there are so many young people who can be harmed by this [maniacal, irresponsible Bryant woman]."

On January 16, Ontario's tax-supported educational television network, TVOntario, demonstrated that it was not about existing sensational, rabble-rousing bigotry to win ratings. On that night, *Speaking Out*, a weekly Toronto issues in education, was devoted to a discussion of moral standards for teachers. Having failed to land the big one, Anita Bryant, the network provided another opportunity for Toronto Sun columnist Claire Hoy to practise what has become best known for — malicious attacks on gays. Other

Politik.

16. Ed Jackson: collective member of *The Body Politic* since 1972, the person who has built the "Our Image" section of the paper. Also one of those charged by the police in the current assembly.

17. Theresa Faubert: active in the Revolutionary Workers' League, a pro-gay leftist group, she was the PWL's candidate in the last provincial election, running directly against the Premier.

18. Kenne Rich: active with Lesbian Organization of Toronto (LOOT) (wearing a LOOT T-shirt) and a member of the Gay Offensive Collective — they're putting together a cable TV program called "This Program may be Offensive to Heterosexuals."

19. Stuart Russell: very active with the Association pour les droits des parents du Québec, and *The Body Politic*'s very diligent Montreal correspondent. 20. Debbie Parent: a member of Lesbians of Ottawa Now.

21. Chris Beersell: dyke dynamo, busy day and night as a member of the Lesbian Organization of Toronto, the Gay Alliance toward Equality, the Gay Offensive Collective, and, most lately, the BODY POLITIC FREE PRESS FUND. She usually writes the "Dykes" column in *The Body Politic*.

All but little gay activists.
Why are these people smiling? Take a guess.

quests included broadcaster/journalist Warren Troyer and a separate school teacher from Peterborough. White supposedly meant to examine the broader question of moral standards — most Rob Parker made some effort to steer discussion in that direction — the program became a debate between Hoy and Troyer that focussed on homosexual equality. Not unexpected, since the half-hour had for opens a clip from a press conference with Bryant during which Parker asked her if she would prefer to have her children taught by competent homosexuals or incompetent heterosexuals. Bryant opted for incompetent heterosexuals.

Viewers all home were able to vote by phone on the question: "Should teachers be fired for their private life or sexual preference?" By the end of the program, more people had responded than they are. At last, however, of all votes received showed 1,231 answering yes; 1,038 no. The figures are meaningless in view of the fact that any one person could vote as many times as her/his fingers could dial the required telephone line.

A Shrine to Emanuel? (Toronto Life, December) offers further evidence that the shortest distance between an observation and a universal truth is Philip Marchand. Saying very little about Emanuel Jacques, a boy murdered in Toronto last summer, or his family, Marchand traces the history of Azorean people since the fifteenth century.

On the kind of epic pointlessness that journalism sometimes achieves, suffice it to borrow one of Marchand's more down-to-earth sentences: "This kind of occurrence happens far too often."

Upcoming: A feature by John Holsman in the March issue of *Toronto Life* on a growing gay organization, Toronto Gay Youth. □

Loving Man

A Photographic Guide to Gay Male Lovemaking by Mark Freeman and Monique L. Hardy

Seized by police in their raid on Pink Triangle's office but not charged — too popular to stop? — these books are still available.

The Young in One Another's Arms

by Jane Rule
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by Mike Fisher, with Gifford Guy Gibson
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This time the "nice Jewish boy" with the difficult parents turns out to be gay. A book on the author's whole self, written with wit, intelligence, and a vast amount of nitty nitty.

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Loving Someone Gay

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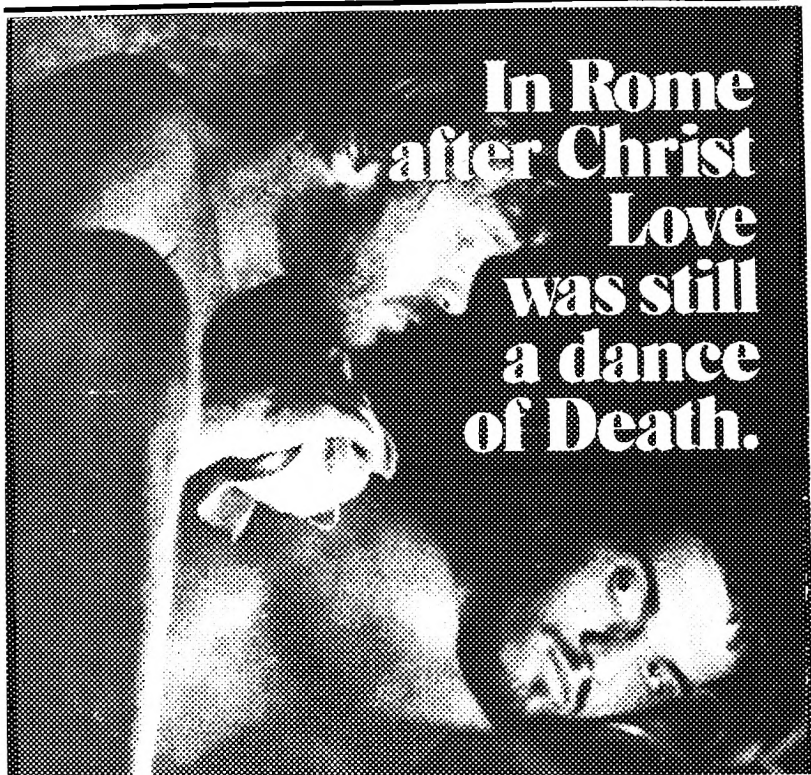
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Let's look on the bright side.

We do not live in a police state. In a police state I couldn't write this column, unless underground, nor could this paper publish it or anything else. In a police state the authorities would simply close the office, destroy the facilities, arrest, torture and probably kill everyone willing to produce, print, distribute, read, support, or talking about *The Body Politic*. But here all they have done so far is to try to prevent publication by seizing vital materials and by imposing the enormous energy and financial penalties of a major court battle. Here we can still mount a defence fund.

In a police state the information outlets are closed down one by one until a single "correct" picture and voice fills the air. The public sees and hears nothing else. But here we still have several choices, though by and large if you disregard the style most of them are becoming alarmingly consistent in purpose and content, proselytizing the good life of an obedient unthinking consumer. In a police state distortion of reality is total, facts are ignored, selected or misinterpreted to construct and disseminate one "truth," which changes not with the natural flow of reality but only with the whim of authority. Here the majority of media managers and most of the people who write and broadcast for them are heading resolutely in that direction, some talking over each other to get there first, others sliding inertly behind, but they aren't there yet. Here we can still listen to independent voices talking back, questioning, challenging authority, resisting distortion. Some of them still have their jobs.

In a police state education has one aim: to recruit for and force conformity to the single dictated system of thought and action. Curiosity, independence and rebellion are seen as dangerous threats to be isolated and eliminated swiftly and ruthlessly before they can spread. People are processed for and channelled smoothly into functions and states of mind most conducive to the maintenance of authority. Alternative views and possibilities are presented only in ways that render them incredible, ridiculous or frightening. Sexuality, like all other aspects of human nature and behaviour, is directed to serve the present needs of the state — population, work-force, army, motherhood, master-race. But here, we are fortunate, determined and brave enough, we can still discover alternatives, almost always outside the schools; we still have a few bookstores, books, people supporting and encouraging possibilities for growth, ways of living and of resisting enforced and crippling conformity.

In a police state, religion is only useful as long as it convinces the inmates that nothing is to convince — divine or political, it's all the same — is the only path to contentment and salvation, or if you like, to survival. Individual or collective responsibility, independent judgement or action are out. But here we still have members of the clergy who rate people above converts, conscience above dogma, and free will above obedience. Most of them are outside churches.

In a police state the legislature or parliament, if it exists, is a rubber stamp. It is presented with new laws, *faits accomplis*, and it can choose between immediate passage or passage after a bit of debate. It is a theatrical event, pomp and circumstance; everyone knows the decisions are made elsewhere. Here we still come across representatives who continue to say the same things after their elections as before, and who at least appear to work at representing as many of their constituents as they can, trying to find the subtle point between leading and following. How many of these have we? You can count as well as I can.

In a police state the law and the


courts exist not to mediate between differing views, not to maintain a balanced justice, but to legitimize the whims of authority. To maintain a balance of terror. A law is not measured by its justness but by its usefulness, nothing more. Here, on the other hand, we have Attorneys-General who, even if they don't respect either the letter or the spirit of the law or who can't reverse it fast enough to suit their purposes, are still somewhat inhibited by it. And here we still have lawyers and judges who can distinguish between authority and justice, between order and reason, who still act more from principle than from a craving for power or profit. An encounter with one of these in the legal system must be a happy accident.

A central failing of the human race: we are incapable of reproducing what we do best — thank goodness we are not original — but we excel at reproducing our worst. Here, very often the people preaching "save our children" most stridently have no fears whatsoever for the security or sanctity of their children. They are people working desperately to save themselves — or their limited visions of humanity — or at least to mold their children, while they are still pliable, into vessels for their own ignorance and failed hopes. These are the people we least need more of: people dissatisfied with their own lives, embittered over the better or freer lives of others, people least equipped to build or create anything of enduring value. These are the people who thrive best in the simple closed circle of a police state. For them the schools and laws and police, the courts and the media, the society of a totalitarian state represent the means by which time can be frozen, their temporary and forgettable moment of life preserved immortally. By according to the will of such people our "civilization" doesn't save or protect its children. It merely guarantees the continuation of its worst mistakes and its most destructive diseases: its Hitlers, its Stalins, its Ku Klux Klans, its Anita Bryants, Claire Hoys, Mary Whitehouses, John Briggs, its Renaissance Committees, its Committees Against Homosexual Rights Legislation, its Pope Pauls, its Phyllis Schallies and Rev. Joseph McDonalds, its executioners, torturers, bigots and hypocrites.

We do not live in a police state. We do live in a society composed of people working toward a police state, people willing to finance a police state, people working against it, people who can't imagine it, people who don't believe it could happen here, and people who don't care. Those working toward a police state are enthusiastic, energetic, organized and lavishly financed; for the People's Church to spring \$5000 and much more for Anita Bryant was nothing. Here's banknotes more from where that came from. They know exactly what they want and have no scruples about how they get it. They operate best in the way. They tend to take small steps until they are confident. They build on ignorance, helplessness and lassitude in the majority, confusion and dissension among the resistance.

Yonge Street, Friday night, summer. A Gay man swings down the street. Moments before diving into a disco he's being pulled by four teen-age nannies. "Give us your money." "I only have two dollars and I need it." "Man cannot live by bread alone. They push him. He falls. Half-way down he pulls off his clog, bounces up and march to his own and everyone else's surprise whacks one of the assailants on the head. Klond. A trickle of blood, the assailant collapses. They all panic and flee. Our hero waves into disco, finds a corner and cries: Moral: tight back. They're testing us. And walk together. With a banner. This is not a police state. We stand in the line.

by Michael Rindon



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ALBERTA

TWO MEN, 26 and 29, masculine and good looking, seeking good times with young men, heterosexual. Will travel Alberta. B.C. Friends Drawer 427.

GAY COUPLE, male 30 wish to meet or correspond with other gay couples not into drugs. S/M or B/O. We enjoy the outdoors, a country taking, hiking, camping, cinema, music. Discretion a must. Drawer 408.

RURAL MALE, horse owner and trainer, 38, would like to correspond with gay men and women about horses. Confidentiality assured, but use a pen name if you wish. Please write today. Drawer 435.

LETHBRIDGE 1 m, 28, trim, tall, blond, with nice looks and nice personality. I'm a fine arts grad. Love all the classics in movies, music, art. I'd like to make more friends in Lethbridge or close by, and this is the only way how I could meet them at their own places (I don't have one). Respond with photo please. Drawer 416.

CALGARY

MASC MALE 24, 5'9", into various sports, music, people. Looking for a short, snort bar guy between 21-35. Am tired of a scene, there must be more to life than that. Strict confidence assured. Photo appreciated but will answer all. From all over Canada. Drawer 930.

WINNIPEG MB

MALE SCORPIO 20's, 5'6", 126 lbs. New to gay life. Straight appearing, honest, clean with many interests. Seeks young gay in similar situation. Would like to rent right guy a room in my comfortable home, reasonable rent. Sincerely only need advice. Photo appreciated. Phone numbers answered immediately. Drawer 862.

SINCERE YOUTH would like to meet other friends or hear from guys across the country. Am tired of phones. Wide variety of interests. Would like lots of love. Write me and see if we can't be friends. Drawer 912.

MANITOBA

EARLY FORTIES EXECUTIVE seeking friendly meetings with discreet gentlemen. Inexperienced but aching to learn. Prefer western re. content but will answer all. Photo appreciated. Drawer A02.

RIDING MOUNTAIN PROVINCIAL EARLY Recent job transfer has left me isolated in a small community outside this provincial park in western central Manitoba. Am 28 good looking, masculine but versatile. Lets get together for some good times. Discretion assured. Drawer 874.

TORONTO

PASSIVE MAN, 5'11", 170 lbs., brownheaded blonde eyes. Wants to meet, touch, and play with a moustache for good times. Phone 782-9046.

HAVE G-STRING WILL MODEL 35 year old man 185 to 5'10" tall, body-builder looking for other guys into art, mirrors, flexing fun and games. I.

am an experienced taller than an athletic type body, affectionate, versatile. Available for those special occasions when an Adj. can't highlight your evening. Write what you have in mind. All letters answered. Let's make a date. Drawer 899.

EXHIBITIONIST WIDE WATER available for private parties. No charge. Just for the fun of it. I am young, slim, very attractive, defined and smooth body. I am now at the lake. Show off if you like. Send letter to occupant. P.O. Box 7155, Postal Station A, Toronto. Drawer 900.

GAY MALE SEEKS NEW FRIENDS in Toronto area. My self description 37 years old, 182 cm tall, 80 kg heavy, very straight appearing, red hair, grey/blue eyes, Christian, member of Blues, stably employed, interested in cats, music, science fiction, eating, home life, loving sex with night partner, not interested in bars, baths, drugs, one-night stands. Your age and appearance are unimportant, but you should be intelligent and articulate. Drawer 901.

AFFECTIONATE MASCULINE MALE, 49, discreet easy going, ab-stained, no drugs, no alcohol, no sexual overreactions. Physically make up irrelevant. New guys welcome. Photo sent. Drawer 898.

THE CALL THE ORIENT "I'm an independent businessman, w/m, 44, 6'8", 180, blond, blue-eyed, muscular, with hair, has been here and back, been lonely for too long and it starts to hurt. I would like to share my life in a caring, responsible, one-on-one relationship with a young, intelligent, oriental gentleman. Friends say I'm extroverted, witty and sociable, easygoing, and a hedonist. I'm into sailing, writing, wilderness hiking, photography and movies. This is my test ad. Drop me some candid lines, write openly about yourself and what you expect from life and a lover, and I'll send you a photo of myself. I do the same for you. Drawer 893.

SLAVES: exp. topman seeks man who can take abuse and love it. W/F, F, humiliation, etc. I will make your dream reality. Drawer 999.

WANTED: MEN IN UNIFORM or leather. No cons. B/O both ways. Am 27, butch and horny. Fully gay fantasies. Drawer 932.

SEEKING BUSINESS MAN, above average education, seeks friend ship, a youthful man under 35 interests are theatre, movies, music, reading, dining, travel. Downtown appearing. Drawer A09.

YOUNG ADULT GAY MALE, good looking, good physique and endowment would like to meet young guys with similar features, no inhibitions, who are just coming out or curious about sex. Very willing to be initiated into gay scene. Discreet. Get together with my specialty. Gentle, affectionate, sincere. Also Box 24, Station G, Toronto, MA 367.

NEEDLE IN A HAYSTACK. Want to seek and share centrally located luxury three bed room apartment, house or condominium. If you are caught in the trap of your own high standards, why not share your gift of love. I am a kind of guy that you are financially stable and not living off 1980 money, write your own ad. I'll answer yours. Write to Drawer A10. Discretion assured. pluck up your courage!

PROFESSIONAL, 30, well built, considered attractive, seeks well educated men with diverse interests, including music, cars, and/or sex. Will answer all. Drawer 896.

I AM A QUIET, serious-minded gay male, clean, 40, medium build, hairy attractive, interests include books, cinema, intellectual conversation. Would like to meet someone similar for a lasting relationship. If you feel we might be able, please write to Box 995.

DISCREET 1931 to find out about Mark Digham. You must be young, good looking, interesting and into the gay community seeking. MALE, 26, WHITE, 5'7", 150 lbs., brown hair, blue eyes, serious mind, looking for same 32 to 45. Masc only for whatever or forever. Am quiet usually but like good times with friends. Like moustaches, beards, hairy guys 5'8" & up. Will reply to all. No heavy drugs, interested in Drawer 918. Reply Drawer A12.

UNGIERIE, BONDAGE, SPANKING are my fantasies, what's yours? Good looking, physically attractive, 26, 160 lbs, 5'8", sincere, masculine, unhibited, seeks dominant partner with erotic imagination for a lasting relationship. Please write. Photo appreciated. Drawer A13.

CAN'T FIND YOUR AD?

It may have been seized. So, please let us know. We'll make sure it's in the next issue.

TWO ATTRACTIVE WHITE MALES younger and mid 20's, 5'10", 130 lbs., 160 lbs, 5'8", sincere, masculine, affectionate, fun loving, honest, with a wide range of interests, would desire to meet and enjoy the company of couples (early twenties) in our gracious apartment in the west end of Toronto to share good times. If you are clean shaven, slim, sincere, straight and attractive looking, please reply by phone or mail to Box 999, Drawer A14, or call us at 299-5064 days, or after 10pm.

GAY FEM BUT NOT OVERLY FEM looking for a partner who is not gay, but slightly improving, looking for a striding gay masculine male not bisexual and trust two ways. If you are clean shaven, slim, sincere, straight and attractive looking, please reply by phone or mail to Box 999, Drawer A14, or call us at 299-5064 days, or after 10pm.

TWO GOOD-LOOKING MASC. blonde guys in mid twenties enjoy participating, younger straight guys in gracious home in central Toronto. 488-0944.

ARE YOU HANDSOME with moustache? Attractive young male 24 likes to meet you for fun and lasting relationship. (416) 961-0234.

MALE TRANSVESTITE wants out of closet. Very willing to accept collection lingerie, girdles, corsets, spike heels. Known understanding person. Age 51, non-smoker, no drugs. Matures. Free time during days. Would like to meet other TV's or lesbian. Must be discreet. Send resume and phone number. Drawer A16.

TRIM, FIT, 32, very weary of trendy gay consumerism, seeks friendly, intelligent, intelligent, free spirited and loving in the city. Write Drawer A17.

YOU'RE READING IN TORONTO, maybe we should meet. I'm handsome and interesting. You must be likewise. Box 1094, Station A.

RETIRED university professor, conservative in dress, manners and politics, liberal or radical in most other respects, wishes to enlarge circle of gay male acquaintances. Widower, with lots of straight friends, mostly married couples. My interests include art, theatre, economics, politics. If you are a university graduate and are employed at a professional or executive level, are clean-shaven, muscular, straight appearing, your age and racial background are unimportant. Mature university student might find me compatible despite age difference. Am seeking interesting companions rather than sex partners, but sex is also an intriguing possibility. I live in North-East Metro. Drawer A20.

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SINCERE, AFFECTIONATE and discreet male, 45, medium build, wishes to meet guys to go to 30, San End Toronto. Have sex and am available afternoons and weekends. New guys and students welcome. Drawer A18.

YOUNG DOWNTOWN MALE wishes to meet similar interesting male for possible friendship and/or sex. Into theatre, films, dining, travel, sex. Send detailed open letter with telephone. Drawer A21.

MALE EARLY 40's wishes to meet same to get together. Likes theatre, movies, good times, etc. No into S/M or drugs, but enjoys dancing. So let's hear from you to this. Drawer A22.

MALE 24 SEEMS SOMEONE 26-36 for lasting relationship. I have my own apartment downtown. If you are lonely and are looking for someone who will give you good sincere loving and understanding, give us a chance to meet and talk and we will see what we can develop. Drawer A23.

OTTAWA

MALE 36, 6'10", 170 lbs., recent arrival Ottawa, seeks sincere friends 25-40 interested in good times in life, theatre, art, squash, cross-country skiing. Photo appreciated. Discretion assured. Drawer 928.

PROFESSIONAL gentleman, 39, attractive appearance, discreet, interested in the arts, travel, sports, seeks companion with similar interests. Replies treated confidentially. Drawer A24.

SOUND ON

EXTRA GOOD-LOOKING straight-appearing male with gymnast's build, wishes to meet other young guys and also new to gay life. Am 24 and interested in only those wanting a real relationship. Photo appreciated. Drawer 926. Photo.

OAKVILLE

23-YEAR-OLD, WELL-BUILT male leading straight life, would like to meet "liberal" guys and women from Oakville — are there any? Enjoy long hair and sports. Discretion necessary. Drawer 934.

SOUTHERN ONTARIO

TALL, GOOD-LOOKING gay male seeking friends, companionship. Age 26. Write with address and phone number. Not into drugs and am non-smoker. Enjoy reading, hiking, travelling, classical, country and western music. Drawer A28.

TALL, SLENDER, professional executive, early 40s, honest, presentable, discreet, well-travelled, wide interests, frequently in Ontario and Quebec, wishes to meet young man, to age 24, pret. student, slim, good looking and sincere who is really interested in travelling and mutually rewarding friendship. All nationalities welcome. No drugs. Photo appreciated. Discretion assured. Drawer A11.

WIDOWER, 43, 5'11", 184 lbs., relatively inexperienced, read a lot about gay life. Seeks older, experienced male between 200-300 lbs. to try it all. South-west Ontario and western. Photo appreciated. Answer at Drawer A24.

AFFECTIONATE MALE, FORTIES, 6', well-built, seeking Chinese or Asian man 5'10" or taller, red-head, warm, from Sarnia area for meetings in Toronto, London or Sarnia. Drawer A26.

MONTREAL

WRESTLING, masculine man, 31, 5'5", 135 lbs, wishes to meet similar man for fun, wrestling sessions. Write to Box 1094, Station A.

NEW BRUNSWICK

FREDERICTON masculine, white, male bisexual, 6'1, 175 lbs, late 20's. Straight appearing. Seeks other young males to 30 years for quiet fun/loving get-togethers. Discretion assured. Prefer conventional appearance and activities. Drawer A05.

YOUNG PROFESSIONAL gay seeks others 'gay caught by society's' 'stare' in the closet, Fargo's syndrome, in Fredericton to Downtown areas. Reside in quiet, small community and feel I'm the only gay in the world. Discretion a necessity for survival and the favour will be returned. Won't someone speak up, and tell me I'm not alone. Who needs Anita Bryant when you've got the blues? Drawer A06.

DETROIT

BLACK, 39 yrs, French and Greek, Well endowed. Would like to hear from London, Toronto, Windsor, Ottawa, Montreal. I can travel some weekends. Enclose a photo. I will do same for you. 664-2020. Adams, Box 13, Detroit, Mich 48226 USA.

HOMES

TORONTO

GAY MAN looking for gay woman to share apartment. St. James town area. Rent \$165/month. Fully furnished. Laundry, pool, sauna and hot tub. Call 464-2660. From 9am-4pm Tues, Wed. 6pm-11pm Thurs, Monday.

PLEASE HELP. I need a place to live. I'm a 30-year-old, single, white, 19 m, mature, friendly, and very easy to get along with. I can't afford much but will do my best. I can help out a fellow gay, write. It would be greatly appreciated. Drawer 927.

ROOMMATE WANTED under 30 to seek 2 bedroom apartment at Bloor and Islington area. No furniture required. Call 464-2660. Room. Call Bob at 5pm-8pm. 285-1.

DOWNTOWN ATTRACTIVE male, 25, 5'9", has an apartment to share with a friend. I'm into M-F or anytime weekends. 464-2660.

PARLIAMENT/WELLESLEY — handsome, 30, well kept home for quiet persons. Friend included, share new bedroom \$25/wk. Call Bob at 5pm-8pm. 285-1.

SEEKING TWO MORE people to join a new gay household in north York. Rent \$1000. Beginning March 1st. Rent approx. \$115. To discuss, contact Harvey Hamman (634-0970) or Andrew McLean (421-515).

GAY GUY'S Rooms, flats, apartments, furnished and unfurnished. Two locations close to downtown. Call 465-3271, 961-0922, 465-8919.

DOWNTOWN, Sherbourne/Carton area. Private Victorian home, quiet, furnished, large bright, broad, roomed room, share kitchen, bath. 464-2660. 361-3414.

YOUNG PROFESSIONAL gay moving to Kingston, seeks person with house or apartment to share beginning in December or January. 464-2660.

TRAVEL

KEY WEST FLA. The Last Resort, new pool, A/C in old town, A/C rooms and vacation apartments. TV lounge, sun deck. Island house, 1129 Fleming Street. (305) 294-6894

Classified Ad Form

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